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ART. I. *The Periplus of the Erythrean Sea.* Part the First. Containing an Account of the Navigation of the Antients, from the Sea of Suez to the Coast of Zanguebar: with Dissertations. By William Vincent, D. D. 4to. pp. 340. 1l. 1s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1800.

IT is the professed design of this volume to offer 'much disquisition on a brief narrative;' to comment on a work with the above title, which, as is here justly observed, contains the best account yet published of the commerce carried on from the Red Sea and the coast of Africa to the East Indies, while Egypt was a province of the Roman Empire; and which was first printed at Basle in 1533, but from what MS. Dr. Vincent has been unable to discover. The Erythrean Sea is an appellation given in the age of the author, to the whole expanse of ocean which reaches from the coast of Africa to the utmost boundary of antient knowlege on the east, and included the gulph of Persia: but who this author was is uncertain. The work has been assigned to Arrian: but if this were the writer's name, Dr. Vincent thinks that it was not the historian of Alexander. He appears from internal evidence to have been a Greek, a native of Egypt, or a resident in that country, and a merchant of Alexandria. The Periplus itself is divided into two distinct parts, one comprehending the coast of Africa from Myos Hormus to Rhapta; the other, commencing from the same point, includes the coast of Arabia, both within the Red Sea and on the ocean; and then passing over to Guzerat runs down the coast of Malabar to Ceylon. Of these two parts, the first only is now presented to the public.—The time at which this Periplus was written has afforded matter for ample discussion; Dr. Vincent assumes for its date the tenth year of the Emperor Nero; and he supports his opinion, which is probable in itself, by much ingenious reasoning.

The Indian commerce has proved, in all times, a copious source of wealth to the nations which have successively enjoyed

it. In the age of the Ptolemies, and during many subsequent periods, the people of Europe sought in Alexandria the most expensive gratifications of luxurious mortals, and the most acceptable offerings to their sensual deities: but, anterior to the foundation of Alexandria, the magnificence of Memphis, and of Thebes, may in all probability be partly imputed to the same cause. Dr. V. observes, (p. 57.)

'That some Oriental spices came into Egypt has been frequently asserted, from the nature of the aromatics which were employed in embalming the mummies; and in the xxxth chapter of Exodus we find an enumeration of cinnamon, cassia, myrrh, frankincense, stactè, onycha, and galbanum, which are all the produce either of India or Arabia.—Now it happens that cinnamon and cassia are two species of the same spice, and that spice is not to be found nearer Egypt or Palestine, than Ceylon, or the coast of Malabar. If then they were found in Egypt, they must have been imported; there must have been intermediate carriers, and a communication of some kind or other, even in that age, must have been open between India and Egypt. That the Egyptians themselves might be ignorant of this is possible; for that the Greeks and Romans, as late as the time of Augustus, thought cinnamon the produce of Arabia, is manifest from their writings.'

Something like a spirit of system is discernible in the prosecution of these inquiries: but that system is advanced with the politeness of a gentleman, and supported by the erudition of a scholar. We therefore proceed to state it.—There is no evidence of a direct intercourse between Egypt and India before the time of the Ptolemies. The establishment of this trade is attributed to Philadelphus: but the testimony of Agatharchides affords direct evidence to the contrary. Agatharchides was president of the Alexandrian library; he was contemporary with Eratosthenes, though younger than him, and flourished 177 years before Christ. His description of the western coast of the Red Sea closes at Ptolemais, as if there were no regular commerce beyond that point: but his account of Sabea discovers the medium through which the commodities of the east found their way to the west: (p. 31.)

'Sabea, says Agatharchides, abounds with every production to make life happy in the extreme; its very air is so perfumed with odours, that the natives are obliged to mitigate the fragrance by scents that have an opposite tendency, as if nature could not support even pleasure in the extreme. Myrrh, frankincense, balsam, cinnamon, and cassia, are here produced from trees of extraordinary magnitude. The king, as he is on the one hand entitled to supreme honour, on the other is obliged to submit to confinement in his palace: but the people are robust, warlike, and able mariners; they sail in very large vessels to the country where the odoriferous commodities are produced, they plant colonies there, and import from thence the larimna, an

an odour no where else to be found; in fact there is no nation upon earth so wealthy as the Gerrhêi and Sabêi, as being in the centre of all the commerce which passes between Asia and Europe. These are the nations which have enriched the Syria of Ptolemy; these are the nations that furnish the most profitable agencies to the industry of the Phenicians, and a variety of advantages which are incalculable. They possess themselves every profusion of luxury, in articles of plate and sculpture, in furniture of beds, tripods, and other household embellishments, far superior in degree to any thing that is seen in Europe. Their expence of living rivals the magnificence of princes. Their houses are decorated with pillars glistening with gold and silver. Their doors are crowned with vases and beset with jewels; the interior of their houses corresponds to the beauty of their outward appearance, and all the riches of other countries are here exhibited in a variety of profusion. Such a nation, and so abounding in superfluity, owes its independence to its distance from Europe; for their luxurious manners would soon render them a prey to the European sovereigns, who have always troops on foot prepared for any conquest, and who, if they could find the means of invasion, would soon reduce the Sabêans to the condition of their agents and factors, whereas they are now obliged to deal with them as principals.'

This quotation proves to Dr. Vincent that, in the reign of Ptolemy Philometor, 146 years after the death of Alexander, the Greek sovereigns of Egypt had not yet traded directly to India, but imported the commodities of India from Saba, the capital of Yemen. The monopoly to which the Arabians owed this unrivalled opulence was attached to an important secret in their possession, which enabled them to reach India by short and easy voyages; while the Greeks and Egyptians, from their ignorance of it, only traded with intermediate ports. This secret was discovered by Hippalus, probably about the year 47; it was a knowlege of the monsoons, or periodical winds; and from that time commenced a direct communication between Egypt and India. The Periplus, to which we must now advert, was in all probability written a few years subsequent to the discovery of Hippalus, and conducts the navigator or merchant, in the first part, from Myos Hormus to Rhapta.

'The principal merchants, who carried on this commerce both under the Ptolemies and the Romans, resided at Alexandria; and though the Ptolemies, for their own interest, might allow others to employ their capital in this trade, and the Romans certainly would not suffer themselves to be wholly excluded, still the standing law of the country was, that every merchant must employ an Alexandrian factor for the transaction of his business; and this privilege alone, with the profits of the transport, is sufficient to account for the immense wealth of the metropolis, exclusive of all other advantages.'

In a note, it is added that 'the revenue of Alexandria, in the worst of times, was 12,500 talents, equal to 2,421,875*l.* sterling;' and till the moment of the Arabian conquest, it continued the second city of the empire in rank, and the first, perhaps, in wealth, commerce, and prosperity.

From Alexandria, the merchandice intended for the eastern market was conveyed up the Canôpic branch of the Nile, to the town of Coptus. The distance is above four hundred miles: but, with the assistance of the Etesian wind, which commences towards the end of July, this internal navigation might be performed in twelve days.

'Coptus was a city in the age of Strabo who visited it, common to the Arabs as well as the Egyptians; it was not actually on the Nile, but connected with it by a canal, and was the centre of communication between Egypt and the Red Sea, by a N. E. route to Myos Hormus, and a S. E. to Berenícè. Upon reference to the map, the reason of this is evident. The river bends here towards the east, and in proportion to its inclination shortens the distance of land carriage.'

Myos Hormus (the port of the mouse) was built by Ptolemy Philadelphus. It is situated on the western coast of the Red Sea, in lat. 27°, and is distinguished by three islands known to modern navigators by the name of the Jaffateens. Strabo describes the entrance as oblique, which was perhaps effected by the site of the island at the entrance; and he notices that the ships which sailed from Berenícè lay at this port till their cargoes were prepared.

Two hundred and sixty miles lower down the gulph, lay the port of Berenícè, also founded by Philadelphus. 'Ras-el-Anf is the leading point to fix Berenícè, for this is the Lepté promontory of Ptolemy, on which Berenícè depends.' This cape ends in a small bay which is now called Foul bay, and by antient navigators *Sinus impurus*. 'De la Rochette's chart gives us a small anchorage or inlet in the very bottom of the bay, which he styles Minè, or Belled el Habesh, the port of Abyssinia. Minè and Belled both signify a fort or castle. The principal Mameluk at Cairo is styled Shaikh al Belled, the sheikh of the castle.' We apprehend a mistake in this passage. *Belad* signifies a country; the expression *Men belad al Habesh*, is *terra citra Abyssiniam;* and *Shaikh al Belad*, means the chief of the country. Dr. Vincent fixes the site of Berenícè in 23° 28′; and he observes that, (p. 78.)

'Notwithstanding it was built by Philadelphus, the route of the caravan thither, and the port itself were little frequented, as long as the Ptolemies reigned in Egypt.—The Romans saw what Philadelphus

plus had designed, and they had the penetration, from their first entrance into the country, to reap the advantages which his successors had neglected. In the course of six or seven years, an hundred and twenty ships sailed from this port for India; these, indeed, were but a small part of the whole. The bulk of the trade still passed by Coptus to Myos Hormus, and continued in the same course till the period in which the Periplus was written.'

The author remarks that the passage quoted from Strabo stands alone as an evidence, that a fleet sailed from Egypt directly to India, previously to the discovery of the monsoons by Hippalus. 'If it did sail, it must still have coasted the whole way. But might not Strabo, from knowing they brought home Indian commodities, have supposed that they sailed to India, when in reality they went no farther than Hadramout in Arabia, or Mosyllon on the coast of Africa, where they found the produce of India?' Mr. Bruce has depicted a range of mountains as extending parallel to the coast, from the sea of Suez to the main of Africa. 'Below this range (says Dr. Vincent) there seems to be a level towards the sea like the Tehama of Arabia, and the Gurrumsir on the gulph of Persia: and I conjecture that Tisebarikè, the name which the Periplus gives to the tract in the neighbourhood of Berenícè, expresses this very level, and corresponds with the Tehama of Arabia.' Capt. Francklin has observed that, in Persic, *Teez u bareek* signifies *sharp* and *thin*: but is it probable that this tract should be called by a Persic name? We are disposed to think that *Men belad al Habesh* is the modern name of this very level; such compound names of places being common in Arabic, for example, And-al-Lus, *Juxta Lusitaniam*, Andalusia:—Mawer-al-nehr, *ultra flumen*, *trans Oxiana*.

Three tribes, named from their food, *fish*, *locust*, and *veal eaters*, intervene between the port of Berenícè and Ptolemáis Thêrôn, a small town deriving its appellation from the elephants, which the contiguous forests supplied to Ptolemy Philadelphus. The antient geographers place it under the parallel of Meroè *, which Mr.

* On the subject of the latitude of Meroè, Dr. Vincent inserts some remarks with which he was favoured by the late Mr. William Wales; and he subjoins a note containing a tributè to the memory of that eminent mathematician and astronomer, for the truth of which we can vouch, and which therefore we with pleasure transcribe. To the loss which science has sustained by his death, we add the regret which we personally feel on being deprived of a most worthy friend and truly valuable coadjutor.

'To Mr. Wales (says Dr. Vincent) I was known only by the courtesy of literature: but such was his love of science, that I never

Mr. Bruce thought he discovered in Gerri: 'But (says Dr.V.) he had reason afterwards to conjecture that he found the remains of Mercè at a village called Gibbaini, for here he discovered ruins which were evidently Egyptian or Ethiopic, and such as he had seen no where from the time he left Axum. He likewise found an island in the Nile called Kurgos by the natives; and such an island, which served for a port to Meroè, Pliny mentions by the name of Tadu.' The latitude of Gibbaini, Mr. Bruce fixes at 17° 4′. In a corresponding latitude on the Red Sea, Eumenes built the fort of Ptolemais on a projecting point, and secured it from the natives by a fosse carried round the angle from sea to sea.

The regular and established port of Adûli is the next at which we arrive; and it can be no other, says Dr. Vincent, than the celebrated harbour and bay of Masuah, so well known by the accounts of the Jesuits and of Bruce, as the only proper entrance into Abyssinia. Two islands are mentioned in the bay of Adûli, which are those now called Sheikh Sidda, and Toalhout (abounding in fish;) while Orine, at twenty miles distance from the coast, answers to the Dehlac of Bruce.—Some speculation respecting the name *Adûli* demands a few observations. 'De la Rochette (says Dr V.) has found the name of Duli still bearing a resemblance to the antient Adûli;' and it is added that Bruce met with a Mohammed *Adúlai* at Masuah. 'which seems to imply that the memorial of Adûli is not lost.' Again; 'Bruce imagines Adûli to bear relation to Adel.' The fact is that *Adel* signifies *just, equitable, inclining to neither side.* What connection there might be between Adûli (*Justus Promontorius*) and the kingdom of Adel, we presume not to say: but the name is the same, and in Arabic would be written *totidem litteris.*

'The sovereign of this coast, (says Dr. V.) from above Berenícè down the whole tract of Barbaria, is Zoskales; he is very superior to the other princes in the neighbourhood. Civilized in his manners, respectable in his conduct, liberal and honourable in his dealings, and instructed in the knowlege of the Greek language.' The Doctor remarks that the province assigned to this sovereign corresponds precisely with the territory allotted to the Bahr-nagash, or king of the coast, under the

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consulted him without receiving every assistance that it was in his power to give. I insert this as his last favor, and not without a tribute of gratitude to the memory of a man, who was as excellent in private life as an husband and a father, as he was eminent in the science he professed,—the friend and companion of the illustrious Cook.'

empire

empire of Abyssinia; and we may add that Zoskales, like Bahr-nagash is not a proper name, but an official title signifying a vigilant, attentive, (superintendant.) Cosmas (styled Indicopleustes, from an erroneous belief of his having navigated the Indian ocean,) wrote his *Topographia Christiana* in A. D. 545; and here he records a Greek inscription, which the governor of Adûli had requested him to copy from a tablet affixed to a marble seat, of which he gives a magnificent description. The Adûlitic marble relates that Ptolemy, (Euergetes) receiving from his father the kingdom of Egypt, Africa, Syria, Phenicia, Cyprus, Lycia, Caria, and the Cyclades, invaded Asia with his land and sea forces. He reduced all the country on this side of the Euphrates, as well as Cilicia, the Hellespont, Thrace, and all the forces in those provinces; then crossing the Euphrates, he entered Mesopotamia, Babylonia, Susiana, Persis, Media, and the country as far as Bactria, and brought the whole under his dominion. To these conquests he added many parts of Abyssinia, and subdued the whole coast of Arabia from Leukè Komè to Sabêa.

"Thus having reduced the whole world to peace under my own authority, I came down to Adûli, and sacrificed to Jupiter, to Mars, and to Neptune, imploring his protection for all that navigate these seas."

It will occur to our readers that the rhodomontade of the Egyptian king does not impeach the veracity of the Greek monk; and though Ptolemy never conquered Thrace, nor approached Bactria, Cosmas may have exhibited an accurate copy of an inscription found at Adûli. His credit is supported by the following fact. The inscription, says Cosmas, was copied by order of Elesbaas the king of the Axiomites, when he was preparing for an expedition against the Homerites, on the other side of the Red Sea;—and the reign of Elesbaas, and the expedition into Arabia about the time of Cosmas's journey, are established by Baronius, Montfaucon, Ludolfus, Chishull, and Bruce. We must not, however, protract our stay at Adûli:—whence to the straits of Bab el mandub, we have no mention of any place but the bay in which the Opsian stone is found, on an extent of nearly 400 miles.

The straits at Bab-el-mandub are contracted to 23 miles, divided into two channels by the intervention of Perim and other isles; they open in an easterly direction to Cana or Cape Fartaque on the Arabian side, and to Aromata or Gardefan on the coast of Africa. 'These two promontories form the proper entrance to the straits from the Indian ocean, and are about 250 geographical miles asunder.' The coast of Barbaria (now Adel) extends from the straits to Cape Gardefan, about

450 geog. miles; it contains, according to the Periplus, four principal marts or anchorages, called by the general name of Tapera, but all attempts to make them correspond are in vain. Abalites was situated near the straits; Malao may be fixed at Delaqua, and Mundus at Zeyla: but the principal port was Mosullon, seated on a promontory, a whole degree north of Mundus; which suits no other point on the coast but Barbara, a town on an island close to the shore, adjoining to a narrow cape of considerable extent. The probability of this being Mosullon is enhanced by the similarity of name between the modern town and the antient province.

We next arrive at the promontory of Arômata, (Gardefan) with its two inferior capes, Elephant (Jebel-fil) on the west, and Tabai (Darfui) on the south.

'At Arômata terminates the modern kingdom of Adel, and the Barbaria of the Periplus; and here the coast of Ajam or Azania commences. Ajam signifies water, according to Bruce; and in this sense is applied to the western coast of the Red Sea, in opposition to the Arabian side where water is not to be had. If Ajam has any reference to this, it seem very ill applied to the coast before us; for between Arômata and Apókopa is a most desolate shore, where hardly the name of a habitable place occurs in the modern charts, and where the Periplus from Opônè is a total blank. At Apókopa, the Cape Baxos (or shoalcape) of the Portuguese, commences the coast of Zanguebar, so called from the island of that name, the trace of which is preserved in the Zengisa of Ptolemy.'

From Apókopa extends a coast which the Periplus states at six days' sail, and calls the little coast and the great; on which not a name occurs, neither is there an anchorage noticed, nor the least trace of commerce to be found. The termination of it may be fixed at the modern Brava, which sufficiently corresponds with the Essina of Ptolemy, being only one degree from the line. To this succeeds a tract named from seven rivers, the mouths of the Quilimancè, which form the Pyralaan islands. The new canal of the Periplus is placed by the author at Mombaça; it being on an island in a bay separated from the land by so narrow a channel, that it is joined to the main by a causeway at low water. The island Eitenediommenuthesias of the Periplus (out of which the commentators unanimously collect Menûthias, whatever may be the fate of the remaining syllables,) is said to be low and woody, having no noxious animals, and situated 30 miles from the coast. Dr. V. thinks that Memfia, one of the Zanguebars, corresponds best with this account. It is situated one hundred miles from Rhapta (Quiloa), which the journal calls the last harbour of Azania, and the termination of discovery.

Rhapta

Rhapta is said in the Periplus to be inhabited by men of the tallest stature and the greatest bulk; and

'The port is subject to the sovereign of Maphartis, which is in Yemen, lying between Musa and the Straits; besides this power of the king, the merchants of Musa likewise exact either a tribute, or demand custom; for they have many ships themselves employed in the trade, on board of which they have Arabian commanders and factors, employing such only as have experience of the country, or have contracted marriages with the natives, and who understand the navigation and the language.'

Rhapta, however, was not the name by which this city was known to the natives. The place, says the Periplus, obtained that appellation among the navigators who were Greeks, from the word ῥάπτω, signifying *to sew*; and it was applied to this place, because they found here vessels not built like their own, but small, and raised from a bottom of a single piece with planks which were sewed together, (with the fibres of the cocoa,) and had their bottoms paid with some of the odoriferous resins of the country. 'Is it not (asks Dr. Vincent) one of the most extraordinary facts in the history of navigation, that this peculiarity should be one of the first objects which attracted the admiration of the Portuguese upon their reaching the same coast, at the distance of almost fifteen centuries.'

We have now followed the author of the Periplus from the commencement of his trading voyage at Myos Hormus, near the head of the Arabian Gulph, to Rhapta or Quiloa in lat. 9° south; which he mentions as the boundary of discovery in that direction. Ptolemy speaks in an uncertain manner of a place named Prasum, (green,) which he fixes in 15° south, the latitude of Mosambique; and opposite to it, at the distance of 5 degrees from the continent, lay the island of Menuthias, by which he certainly meant Madagascar.

With the accuracy of a merchant, the writer of the Periplus does not omit to state the exports and imports of the various places at which he touches. Cinnamon, cassia, myrrh, frankincense, ivory, rhinoceros' horn, tortoise shell, and slaves, compose the bulk of the former: while cloths, hatchets, metals, and wine, are to be found among the articles imported.

Dr. Vincent argues with great ingenuity against the possibility of an African circumnavigation previously to that of the Portuguese; and he asserts that there is no evidence of a farther progress to the south, on the western coast of Africa, than that of Hanno; nor on the eastern, than that of the Periplus. On this subject, we shall only observe that no new evidence can be procured, and that what exists will appear more or less cogent to different minds. We must confess ourselves dis-

posed to credit the voyage related by Herodotus, till it can be proved that the circumnavigation, in such vessels as the Phenicians then possessed, was physically impossible; and our belief is founded on the following considerations: 1st, The simplicity of the narrative, unblended with miraculous adventures, which Dr. Vincent justly states as a criterion of personal knowlege in antient writers; 2d, The discovery of two important truths, the falling of the shadow to the south, and the peninsular form of the African continent; one of which could be ascertained by no other means, and the former of which was disbelieved by the very writer who relates it: 3d, The navigators only put to sea when circumstances were favourable; the sea which washes the southern peninsula is not always boisterous; and though the attempt was hazardous and success improbable, still no insurmountable impediment to its completion exists.

It appears that, when the Periplus was written, the Arabians possessed numerous colonies on the eastern coast of Africa, and probably had already peopled the islands of Comoro, and settled on the coasts of Madagascar, also called *Al Comar* by Edrisi. Their last residence on the coast was Sofala; and this limit they had not passed at the close of the 15th century, when Covilham found them ignorant of the farther extension of the continent.

An account of the Portuguese discoveries on the same coast concludes the work; and although this detail involves much curious discussion, yet on a subject so well known we deem it unnecessary to make extracts. 'Here (says Dr. Vincent) I close the first part of my design, which was to examine the navigation of the antients on the coast of Africa, from their first entrance into the Red Sea, to the termination of their progress to the south; and to connect their discoveries with those of the moderns, by fixing on the voyage of Gama, as the point of union.'

The Appendix contains four dissertations on the following subjects:

1st, An alphabetical catalogue of the articles of commerce mentioned in the Periplus, with an account of their nature and properties, as far as it is requisite for the elucidation of the journal.

2d, An account of the Adûlitic inscription found in Abyssinia by Cosmas Indicopleustes, a monk of the sixth century.

3d, An inquiry into the corrupt reading of the manuscript, in regard to the word Εἰλενδιωμμενεθεσίας.

4th, The form of the habitable world as imagined by Pomponius Mela, Cosmas, and Al Edrisi.

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The Arabic names mentioned by Edrisi are given in Roman characters by Capt. Francklin: but we wish that this gentleman had always mentioned both the Asiatic and European names of the countries specified. A few mistakes into which he has fallen, and a few more which we only suspect, require some observations. His candor will admit the corrigenda, as soon as they are pointed out.

The 16th region of Edrisi is called by Capt. Francklin *Tajdeen;* it should have been *Belad al Tajvin*, the country of the Tajvin, a race of idolaters, whose principal town is Tajvia, called Tagua by Major Rennell, and said to be 18 days' journey west from Doncola.

20th. *Gowaz.* We suspect that the true reading is *Cades*, or Acades (most holy); the country is probably *Agadez;* though not if Canem be properly placed by Major Rennell.

23d. *Belad Mufrada.* This country is named *Maczerat* by D'Herbelot. It is situated south of the Niger; and we suspect that its real name is Macrat, a tract once overflowed by the periodical rising of the waters.

31st. *Al Hureed.* Capt. Francklin has mistaken the first letter; the word is *Al Gerid*, a palm branch stripped of its leaves. *Belad-al-gerid*, vulgò *Biledulgerid*, the country of bare palm trees.

38th. *Alfazeh.* The country meant is *Sistan;* the name is new to us; and we apprehend a mistake, but can propose no emendation. The town of *Pasa*, called by the Arabs (who have no *p*) *Fasa*, is thought by Major Rennell to be the antient *Pasagarda.* It is at no great distance, and with the surrounding districts may retain the name of *Alfasa.*

39th and 40th. *Mughan* and *Sunda* are *Mecran* and *Sina.*

44th. *Al-Beharus.* If this be *Behar-al-Rus*, the Russian Sea, it probably means the shores of the Caspian.

As our limits will not admit of farther extension, we shall only remark that *Kurgea*, called *Georgia* by Capt. Francklin, is the country inhabited by the Kergis, east of the Caspian; *Albeian*, we suspect, should be *Al Iunan*, *Ionia;* and *Jenubia*, which he says is probably Sweden, is manifestly *Danubia*, the provinces south of the Danube.

Ham.

ART. II. *The Miscellaneous Works of Hugh Boyd, the Author of the Letters of Junius.* With an Account of his Life and Writings, by Lawrence Dundas Campbell. 2 Vols. 8vo. 16s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1800.

IT is an unlucky prognostic for an author, when critics stumble at the threshold of his book, and are obliged to

find fault with the very title-page. This omen might have been averted in the present instance; for it was in Mr. Campbell's power to have qualified his attribution of the celebrated Letters of Junius to his friend Mr. Boyd, and to have advanced his assertion in a less peremptory and assuming manner. We can truly say that on this subject we perused Mr. C.'s arguments with the utmost impartiality; and, as we had never adopted any of the opinions formerly proposed on this mysterious question, the nomination of a new claimant conveyed no shock to our feelings. On the contrary, we were eager to investigate every circumstance respecting a writer, who might be qualified to excite, on reasonable grounds, a suspicion that he was the author of Junius's Letters; and it would have gratified us in a high degree, if Mr. Campbell had substantiated his proposed opinion, because we feel, in common with all lovers of our literature, an anxiety to know the real name of so powerful a writer:—but, for whatever fortunate publication that discovery may be reserved, we apprehend that it has escaped Mr. C.'s observation.

The judgment which we have thus expressed is founded on two principles; 1st, On the deficiency of Mr. C.'s positive proof; and, 2dly, On the internal evidence of Mr. Boyd's avowed publications, subsequent to the Letters of Junius.

The direct evidence, stated by the present editor, only shews that Mr. Boyd was an eager admirer, and, to the best of his abilities, an imitator of Junius; and if this medium of proof were allowed, there might be hundreds of living authors found for those compositions.—A popular writer forms the taste of many of his readers, by a process almost insensible to the pupil. The appearance of the Letters of Junius may be fairly reckoned as a new æra in our political compositions; and every succeeding essayist on temporary politics has endeavoured to approach their manner. Mr. Boyd mixed in political society at the time of the high celebrity of those philippics, was smitten with the love of parliamentary debates, (of which he was an accurate reporter,) and particularly admired the eloquence of the great Lord Chatham, which bears a considerable resemblance to the style of Junius. If, under all these circumstances, therefore, he should have expressed a strong interest about the publications of the day, and if he should have written somewhat in the style of the most fashionable party-authors, these are easy explanations of all Mr. Campbell's facts. The only difficulty, which he suggests, viz. that while Mr. Boyd corresponded with Mr. Woodfall, no letters by him can be traced in the Public Advertiser, unless those of Junius be adjudged to him, admits another solution. Mr. B. was, at that time, according to his biographer's

pher's account, a distressed man; and he might be employed in a subordinate capacity, to contribute to the daily exigencies of a newspaper. This appears to us the proper import of Mr. Woodfall's expressions on this subject: but we offer it merely as our own conjecture. Were we, however, to guess in the manner of Mr. Campbell, we should consider it as undoubtedly true. In striving to appropriate to Mr. Boyd a political squib, published in Ireland, he proceeds thus:

'Every endeavour was made, without effect, to discover the author. That Flood suspected Mr. Boyd is extremely probable; but I know not that he ever hinted such a suspicion to any one. Mrs. Boyd always thought that Sindercombe was her husband's production, from several circumstances which no one else possessed the means of observing; and many years afterwards, she was satisfied that her conjecture was founded in fact: though Mr. Boyd himself, never, either acknowledged or denied, that he was the author. This doubtless was his first attempt at preserving that secrecy in his political writings, in which he was always so successful, as well as his first essay in that species of literary composition, in which he afterwards so much excelled.'

A more curious specimen of the art of conjecturing was never offered to the public!

The perusal of Mr. Boyd's own writings, however, must convince every reader of critical powers, that his style is much inferior to that of Junius, both in force and correctness. The partiality of his biographer may not admit this decision, but a few examples will justify it. Would Junius have written the following sentences?

'The writer, whose unfortunate necessity it is to inculcate self-evident truths, has a delicate, and often a thankless office.—For it implies an extraordinary suspicion either of the dulness of his readers which cannot understand, or their obstinacy that will not confess.'

A more intricate and unfortunately expressed passage cannot easily be produced. Yet it forms the beginning of the preface to the *Freeholder*, which, we are told, is equal in merit to Junius's Letters.

We shall try another short extract from the same piece;

'For besides the disgraceful plea of customary servitude, there are certain whining reasoners who affect to despair of the constitution. To what purpose, they ask, are individual exertions of patriotism? Majorities in parliament, they complain, are certain; government invincible; pensions and places numerous and decisive; and rotten boroughs an incurable evil. Thence they infer that it matters not whether it be well or ill represented; that all is vanity and vexation of spirit; and that no advantage can be derived from any candidate whatever.'

Some

Some dexterity is requisite to discover the relative of *it*, in the third period.—In the next sentence, the singular pronoun *thou* and the plural *you* are most inelegantly blended together.

That we may put the reader in possession of the strongest part of Mr. Campbell's case, we shall transcribe his favourite passage, on which he rests much of his friend's claim:

'We are no *longer* sunk in the dead repose of despotism and *long* parliaments. Those stagnations of corruption and filth, shall no more poison the land. "*Alba nautis stella refulsit*" The returning day-star of the consitution again illuminates the political hemisphere; and, in fulness of splendour, displays the glorious moment which restores to us our original rights. The power which we delegated, and the trust which we conferred, revert to us. The constitution regenerates. And the new birth inspires new vigour. As the giant received renovation of strength from touching his mother earth, so the rights of the people acquire new spring and force, when brought back to their original and parent source, the people's voice.

'Surely my brethren will not be so blind to their most essential interests, as to neglect or abuse, this only opportunity of protecting them. Is there a man amongst you, who will not praise and honour that truly constitutional measure, the bill for shortening the duration of parliaments? Shall there then be found a slave, so sottishly dull, or so shamelessly base, as to thwart the glorious purpose intended by that admirable bill?—The purpose of independeuce—the cause of liberty!

'Such, my friends, are the invaluable blessings now within our grasp. Such are the transcendant rewards now presented to us by the opportunity of an election. Power now returns to its genuine centre, the will of the people. It is theirs, and only theirs, to put it in action, and to prescribe its operations. The vital blood ebbs back to the heart of the *constitution*. Let us imitate the wisdom of nature, and we shall attain its successful effects. Let us give the vital streams again to flow through their constitutional channels. So shall the health of the whole body be restored, and its strength established. Every part of it shall revive and flourish. And the ghastly countenance of poverty and servitude, shall brighten into the smile of happiness and the triumph of liberty.'

On this passage, Mr. Campbell has observed;

'This appears to have been a favourite figure of Mr. Boyd's. In the Indian Observer he applies it no less happily than in the present instance. In talking of the circulation of commerce, he says, "The rich streams that have flowed through the arteries of protected trade, return through the grateful veins, to support the source from whence they issued." And it is peculiarly deserving of observation, that this metaphor is used by no other author except *Junius*, who in exhorting the kingdom at large to follow the example which the city of London had given them, by petitioning the King to dissolve the parliament, observes, "That the noble spirit of the metropolis is the life-blood of the state, collected at the heart; from that point it circulates

culates with health and vigour through every artery of the constitution."

Here, again, Mr. Campbell has been too decisive. Pope, for example, has used this simile:

> "As man's meanders to the vital spring
> Roll all their tides, then back their circles bring;"

a passage only remarkable for its happiness of expression; for the common term, *circulation*, contains the general idea.

In p. 44 of the Freeholder, we meet with an oversight of which the author of Junius could never have been guilty: Mr. Boyd speaks of a courtier, possessed of estates in Ireland, who 'remembers that country only in the *large remittances* which he draws from her *exhausted bosom.*' Arrah!

The second of these volumes contains Mr. Boyd's account of his embassy to the King of Ceylon. It is well written, but offers nothing new respecting the court of Candy. The preface, which is avowed by Mr. Campbell, is more amusing and instructive. Mr. Boyd's *Indian Observer* terminates the volume. Of this periodical paper, when formerly published by Mr. Campbell, we spoke briefly in our 27th vol. N. S. p. 341; and we then remarked that Mr. C. had produced "*something like presumptive evidence*" in favour of the claim which he urged on the part of his deceased friend. The present renewal of this claim, however, has induced us more minutely to examine it; the result has been unfavourable to the conjecture; and the dogmatism with which it is asserted must be our excuse if we have scrutinized the preceding passages with severity. Mr. C. has endeavoured to seize for his friend the honours of a composition, to which few men of this age have been supposed equal. Whether the merit of Junius's Letters has been in any degree over-rated, we need not at present inquire; certain it is, that the name of the writer of them has been a secret as impatiently investigated as any of the most curious historical problems:—but who has ever inquired concerning the author of the Letters of Democrates, or of the Indian Observer? Those publications floated quietly down the tide of oblivion, till Mr. Campbell attempted to drag them from the flood, and bind them to the buoyant productions of Junius:—but we conceive that the efforts of this literary Mezentius will be fruitless; and that the name of Boyd will only occupy an innocent place in the list of those frequent attempts at fathering the unowned babes of genius, by which the present age is distinguished. Indeed, the high pretensions which have been urged for this gentleman have probably operated to the prejudice of those works of which he was confessedly the author.

Our

Our expectations were unnecessarily raised by their alleged scope, and we have not discovered in them even one agreeable error.

Fer.

ART. III. *An Appendix to the Supplemental Apology for the Believers in the Supposititious Shakspeare-Papers:* being the Documents for the Opinion that Hugh M'Auley Boyd wrote Junius's Letters. By George Chalmers, F. R. S. S. A. 8vo. pp. 147. 3s. Egerton. 1800.

WE have already delivered our opinion respecting the supposition that the letters of Junius were written by Mr. Boyd, in the preceding article; and the present addition to the previous supplements and supplementary appendixes of Mr. Chalmers has not in any degree altered our sentiments on this subject. It must be confessed, however, that by the aid derived from some of his friends, Mr. C. has contrived to insert some occasional traits of amusement. A few anecdotes of eminent persons, to whom the letters of Junius have been imputed, relieve the languid eye of the reader, and even inspire him with unexpected gaiety, by the peculiar tone of the criticism which attends them. We are told of Burke, for example:

'It is curious to remark, that the taste of Burke corresponded with the judgment of Hume, in historic writing: they both concurred in approving simplicity of style, and strength of remark. Upon these principles, Edmund Burke engaged, at a subsequent day, in writing a history of England, which proceeded to the press: but it was suppressed, from a consideration of the popular prevalence of Hume's history. It is easy to perceive, from an examination of his *European Settlements*, that Burke, in history, would have shewn, like Hume, great profundity of observation, and elegance of narrative; but with all, great want of elaboration.'

For these qualities of *profundity*, and *elaboration*, we give the palm to our *supplemental* author: HE casts his lead into the waters of oblivion with persevering strength:

"Plunges for sense, but finds no bottom there!"

The only passage, which tends to settle the question concerning the person of Junius, occurs in a note to p. 35.

'On this subject, my intelligent friend, before mentioned, has written to me as follows: "I must assure you, that I frequently heard my most excellent friend, Sir Joshua Reynolds say, that Mr. Samuel Dyer wrote Junius. Dyer was an extraordinary man; learned, sagacious, sarcastic in his manner, of almost inimitable silence in conversation, full of observation and penetration. At this time, he smarted under the new administration of the Duke of Grafton, when Burke, &c. was turned out: Dyer lived with Burke chiefly, and was Burke's assistant

assistant in matters of calculation. Certainly Junius was written by some mortified man."

When we add that the late Dr. Warton was the *intelligent friend* who furnished this information, it will appear to deserve some attention. Mr. Chalmers, however, rejects this evidence, because Dyer was an 'inefficient scholar,' and had 'idle habits.' Yet even from Mr. C.'s biography, we can collect that Dyer was one of those persons, '*whose negligence is preferable to the obscure diligence of others.*'

Farther remarks on this subject will occur in the course of our examination of Mr. Malone's edition of Dryden's Prose works, in the article immediately subsequent to the present.

Mr. C. appears, on different occasions, sufficiently puzzled to 'knit up the loop of his argument *;' and he has darned it with such old and flimsy materials, that he brings to our recollection the stockings of Sir John Cutler, of metaphysical celebrity. [Vide Martinus Scriblerus.]

On the inaccuracy which Mr. Chalmers pretends to have discovered in the style of Junius, he here enlarges with much asperity. It would be very amusing to see an edition of the Letters corrected and amended by Mr. C., who is well qualified to prove the Zoilus of political composition. Did not some gentlemen ingenuously inform us of the strange opinions which they adopt respecting authors, it would be impossible to conjecture with what little taste and discernment they read books. It forms the summit of the triumphal arch of our *Supplemento—Critico—Biographico—Appendico—Apologetical* author, when he arrives at the important truth that Hugh M'Aulay Boyd was Hugh Boyd, and that Hugh Boyd was Hugh M'Aulay Boyd. "Ευρηκα."—Here it is.

'From Belfast, our patriotic Freeholder went to Dublin, where he was called to the bar, in Easter-term 1776, by the name of Hugh Boyd. We may hereby see how facts confirm each other: the fact, that Hugh M'Aulay Boyd wrote the *Freeholder* at Belfast, in February, and March, 1776, goes to prove, that the same Hugh M'Aulay Boyd was called to the bar at Dublin, in Easter term 1776: and, the fact, that Hugh Boyd was then, and there, called to the bar, strongly corroborates, by its coincidence, that Hugh M'Aulay Boyd wrote the *Antrim Freeholder*.'

Is not this a process *whereby* to detect the author of Junius? and when we have perpended the *sum* and *substance* of the aforesaid pamphlet, must we not *then* and *there* our opinions lease, grant, and devise, unto the aforesaid George Chalmers, for the purposes therein recited; THAT IS TO SAY, that he the

* This elegant figure occurs in pp. 43, 44.

aforesaid George Chalmers shall well and truly prove, that the author of Junius could not write English grammatically; and that the said G. C. shall shew, on the oath of twelve creditable housekeepers, that they have read his Supplementary Appendix to the Supplementary Apology, without yawning more than twice at each line of his own composition?

ART. III. *The Critical and Miscellaneous Prose Works of John Dryden*, now first collected: With Notes and Illustrations; an Account of the Life and Writings of the Author, grounded on original and authentic Documents; and a Collection of his Letters, the greater Part of which has never before been published. By Edmond Malone, Esq. 8vo. 4 Vols. pp. about 560 in each. 2l. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1800.

As we have often thought that a complete collection of Dryden's Prose Works would be a very desirable publication, we congratulate the admirers of that celebrated genius on the appearance of the present volumes. The charms of his prose compositions are scarcely inferior to the fascinations of his poetry; the same vigour, the same copiousness and variety, and the same harmony, distinguish and embellish both. His essays are frequently recommended by ingenious remarks, blended with valuable information; and always by the grace of novelty in the manner, even when the subject has been nearly exhausted by others. Dr. Johnson observes that "Dryden may be properly considered as the father of English criticism, as the writer who first taught us to determine upon principles the merit of composition."—To this praise, we shall add that eminent biographer's remarks on the chief of these productions:

"The Dialogue on the Drama was one of his first essays of criticism, written when he was yet a timorous candidate for reputation, and therefore laboured with that diligence which he might allow himself somewhat to remit, when his name gave sanction to his positions, and his awe of the publick was abated, partly by custom, and partly by success. It will not be easy to find, in all the opulence of our language, a treatise so artfully variegated with successive representations of opposite probabilities, so enlivened with imagery, so brightened with illustrations. His portraits of the English dramatists are wrought with great spirit and diligence. The account of Shakspeare may stand as a perpetual model of encomiastick criticism; exact without minuteness, and lofty without exaggeration. The praise lavished by Longinus on the attestation of the heroes of Marathon by Demosthenes, fades away before it. In a few lines is exhibited a character, so extensive in its comprehension, and so curious in its limitations, that nothing can be added, diminished, or reformed; nor can the editors and admirers of Shakspeare, in all their

their emulation of reverence, boast of much more than of having diffused and paraphrased this epitome of excellence, of having changed Dryden's gold for baser metal, of lower value though of greater bulk.

" In this, and in all his other Essays on the same subject, the criticism of Dryden is the criticism of a poet; not a dull collection of theorems, nor a rude detection of faults, which perhaps the censor was not able to have committed; but a gay and vigorous dissertation, where delight is mingled with instruction, and where the author proves his right of judgment, by his power of performance

" The different manner and effect with which critical knowledge may be conveyed, was perhaps never more clearly exemplified than in the performances of Rymer and Dryden. It was said of a dispute between two mathematicians, " malim cum Scaligero errare, quam cum Clavio rectè sapere;" that *it was more eligible to go wrong with one, than right with the other.* A tendency of the same kind every mind must feel at the perusal of Dryden's prefaces and Rymer's discourses. With Dryden, we are wandering in quest of Truth; whom we find, if we find her at all, dressed in the graces of elegance; and if we miss her, the labour of the pursuit rewards itself; we are led only through fragrance and flowers: Rymer, without taking a nearer, takes a rougher way; every step is to be made through thorns and brambles; and Truth, if we meet her, appears repulsive by her mien, and ungraceful by her habit. Dryden's criticism has the majesty of a queen; Rymer's has the ferocity of a tyrant."

Of the productions of an author, of whom Dr. Johnson farther declares that " nothing is cold or languid; that the whole is airy, animated, and vigorous: that what is little is gay, and what is great is splendid;" we naturally wish to possess the whole. Such appears to have been the object of the present editor; who has not only contributed to the fame of his celebrated author, but has rendered an acceptable service to the cause of the *Litteræ humaniores.*—The plan which he has adopted, in these volumes, we shall state to the reader in his own words:

' In the arrangement of the various pieces contained in these volumes, chronological order has been attended to, as far as was consistent with other still more important objects. With a view to mutual illustration, I have placed together all the Essays respecting the Stage; from which I have selected and given precedence to the seven principal, both in value and bulk, as forming one great body of dramatick criticism. These are, the Essay of Dramatick Poesy, the Defence of that Essay, the Preface to the Mock Astrologer, the Essay on Heroick Plays, the Defence of the Epilogue to the Second Part of the Conquest of Granada, the Grounds of Criticism in Tragedy, and the Answer to Rymer. All our Author's Dramatick Dedications and Prefaces, not comprised in the foregoing list, then follow, in the order of time in which they were written; and to these succeed all his other critical Prefaces, Dedications, Lives, and Miscellaneous Essays, chronologically arranged; with the exception of

the Preface to the Translation of Ovid's Epistles, which, for the sake of juxtaposition, is placed in the same volume with the Preface to the Second Miscellany, nearly the same topicks being discussed in both.

'The first edition of each piece has in general been followed: but here also some deviation was neceſſary; for on collating the second edition of the ESSAY OF DRAMATICK POESY printed in 1684, with the first of 1668, I found that the author had corrected it with great care. From his revised copy, therefore, that Essay has been printed. In a Letter to his bookseller he mentions, that, previously to his Translation of Virgil being sent a second time to the press, he had spent nine days in reviewing it. As it was probable therefore, that some alterations and amendments were made in the Essays prefixed to that work, (though I now believe his revision was confined to the poetry,) I thought it safest, in printing those Essays, to follow the second edition; here, however, as well as in the former instance, availing myself occasionally of such aid as the earlier copies afforded, by which some literal errours of the press, both in those Dissertations and the Dramatick Essay, have been corrected. Of every other piece in these volumes the first edition has been followed, excepting only the Defence of that Essay: of which the original copy is so rare, that I have never met with it.

'Of Dryden's LETTERS, very few of which have ever been printed, I wished to form as ample a collection as could be procured; and am highly indebted to William Baker, Esq. Representative in Parliament for the county of Hertford, who most obligingly has furnished me with all the correspondence, now extant, which passed between our author and his bookseller, Jacob Tonson, from whom these papers descended to that gentleman: which, besides exhibiting a lively portrait of this great poet, contain some curious documents respecting the price of his works, and some other interesting particulars concerning them. To this series I have added a letter written in his youth to Mrs. Honour Driden, from the original in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Blakeway, of Shrewsbury; a letter to John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, from a manuscript copy in the Museum; one to Samuel Pepys, Esq. from the original in the Pepysian Collection in Magdalene College, Cambridge; one to Charles Montague, afterwards Earl of Halifax, from the original in my possession; and sixteen letters addressed, at a late period of life, to his kinswoman, Mrs. Steward, or her husband; which have been obligingly communicated to me by her grand-daughter, Mrs. Gwillim, of Whitchurch, near Ross, in Herefordshire, by the hands of Mrs. Ord, of Queen Anne-street. Some others have been found scattered in miscellaneous volumes; and many more, I have no doubt, are in the possession of various persons, which might easily be discovered, if they would but search their family papers. With the hope that such an examination may be made, I shall give, in a subsequent page, a list of those persons in whose cabinets Dryden's letters are likely to be found.'

Independently of the letters, which now for the first time make their public appearance, Mr. Malone has given a collection

tion of Dryden's critical and miscellaneous works, hitherto dispersed in a great variety of books, some of which are become extremely rare. This collection we believe to be complete; it certainly is much more comprehensive than any that we have before seen *; and it attributes to Dryden, (we doubt not, with sufficient reason,) pieces which were not generally known to be his compositions. These productions, however, have been so long before the public, and their various merits have been so justly appretiated, that we shall dwell only on those parts which we think will have the recommendation of novelty to our readers. Of this description is some of the epistolary correspondence, from which we shall make one or two extracts.

The letters (which, to the best of the editor's judgment, are placed in chronological order) are chiefly addressed to the celebrated bookseller Mr. Jacob Tonson, and to the author's cousin Mrs. Steward: but we find also, besides those above enumerated, two to Dr. Busby, one to Lawrence Hyde Earl of Rochester, (second son of Lord Chancellor Clarendon,) one to John Dennis, and two to Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, of whom the editor has given a full account in his life of Dryden, which we shall notice before we conclude this article. From most of these letters, we derived less entertainment than we expected: for if we admit that they were written with ease, we allow them their highest merit: but we must except that which was addressed to Mr. Dennis, and the epistle from the critic which produced it; both of which we would present to our readers, were they not too long, and had they not formerly appeared in print. We find them in a work intitled "Familiar Letters of Love, Gallantry, and several other occasions, by the Wits of the last and present Age;" &c. Sixth edition. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1724.

Though we discover not much that is important, or highly creditable to the author's talents, in these letters, we perceive several interesting traits of character, and notices of habits peculiar to those times, which are now almost unknown.

'I am glad to hear from all hands, (says Dryden to Tonson,) that my ode (for St. Cecilia's Day) is esteemed the best of all my poetry, by all the town; I thought so myself when I writ it; but being old, I mistrusted my own judgment.'—In the same letter, we discover an instance of confidence which is very unusual with him. 'You told me not, (he remarks,) but the town says, you are printing Ovid *de arte amandi*. I know my translation is very uncorrect: but at the same time I know,

* Several years ago, we met with a small Scotch edition of the *best* essays of this admirable writer, but it was only a selection.

nobody else can do it better, with all their pains.' In another place, however, he declares that his Virgil 'has succeeded above his desert or expectation.'

That our readers may be enabled to judge of the sincerity with which Dryden was converted to the Roman Catholic religion, we shall present them with a passage from a letter to his relation Mrs. Steward:

'Madam 'Nov. 7. (1699.)

'Even your expostulations are pleasing to me; for though they shew you angry, yet they are not without many expressions of your kindness; and therefore I am proud to be so chidden. Yet I cannot so farr abandon my own defence, as to confess any idleness or forgetfulness on my part. What has hind'red me from writing to you was neither ill health, nor a worse thing, ingratitude; but a flood of little businesses, which yet are necessary to my subsistance, and of which I hop'd to have given you a good account before this time: but the court rather speaks kindly of me, than does any thing for me, though they promise largely; and perhaps they think I will advance as they go backward, in which they will be much deceiv'd: for I can never go an inch beyond my conscience and my honour. If they will consider me as a man who has done my best to improve the language, and especially the poetry, and will be content with my acquiescence under the present government, and forbearing satire on it, that I can promise, because I can perform it: but I can neither take the oaths, nor forsake my religion: because I know not what church to go to, if I leave the Catholique; they are all so divided amongst themselves in matters of faith, necessary to salvation, and yet all assumeing the name of Protestants. May God be pleased to open your eyes, as he has open'd mine! Truth is but one; and they who have once heard of it, can plead no excuse, if they do not embrace it. But these are things too serious for a trifling letter.'

When a needy man's sense of religion cannot be biassed by a certain prospect of pecuniary advantage, it may fairly be inferred that he is conscientious in his profession.

We now proceed to give some account of the biography prefixed to this work, which occcupies a whole volume, and of which the editor thus speaks:

'On reviewing the received accounts of Dryden's Life and Writings, I found so much inaccuracy and uncertainty, that I soon resolved to take nothing upon trust, but to consider the subject as wholly new; and I have had abundant reason to be satisfied with my determination on this head; for by inquiries and researches in every quarter where information was likely to be obtained, I have procured more materials than my most sanguine expectations had promised; which, if they do not exhibit so many particulars concerning this great poet as could be desired, have yet furnished us with some curious and interesting notices, and cleared away much confusion and errour; and

enabled

enabled me to ascertain several circumstances of his life and fortunes, which were either unknown, or for almost a century the subject of uncertain speculation and conjecture.'

We are farther informed by Mr. M. that Dr. Johnson, in his Life of Dryden,

'Was obliged to rely for incidents and dates, on such information as had been transmitted by preceding biographers. Unfortunately, all the accounts of Dryden and his works were one continued tissue of inaccuracy, error, and falsehood. Very little had been handed down, and of that little the greater part was untrue. With the aid, therefore, of original and authentic documents, to rectify these mis-statements, to illustrate the history of our author's life and writings by such intelligence as I have been able to procure, and to dispel that mist of confusion and errour in which it had been involved, shall be the principal object of the following pages.'

We can readily grant that Mr. Malone has succeeded, in proportion to the labour which he has bestowed, in ascertaining dates, in settling the orthography of the name of Dryden, and in other particulars: but we must doubt whether the object was of sufficient importance to justify the length of his inquiry; and we are certain that the perusal of his investigations has been extremely uninteresting and tiresome. Too many pages also, in several instances, are employed in deciding the year of the publication of works which their want of merit has long caused to be forgotten. We cannot but regret an excessive accumulation "of all such reading as is never read." We sat down to this piece of biography with expectation, and we rose from the perusal of it with weariness. It is impossible that much anxiety can exist respecting the period at which the *Driden* family assumed the name of *Dryden*, or when Sir Charles *Sidley* was called *Sedley;* and it is equally impossible to feel any intereſt in the dull, monotonous accounts given of our poet's ancestors, both paternal and maternal. We are indeed indebted to them for having produced such a man as Dryden: but our gratitude is too heavily taxed when we are compelled to give attention to so many pages, which are totally unworthy of it.

Though we are obliged to express ourselves with severity concerning many passages in these biographical memoirs, yet there are parts which deserve commendation, and which we shall willingly point out to our readers.

The following is an amusing account of the versatility and caprice of Wilmot Earl of Rochester, respecting the different poets of his time:

'Lord Rochester, in 1668, at the early age of one-and-twenty, had the honour to be appointed a Gentleman of the Bed-chamber to

Charles the Second, who took great delight in his company. It is highly probable that the advancement of fortune to which Dryden alludes, was, his contributing, with others, to obtain for him the office of Poet Laureate. Being by his place much about the King, he resided chiefly in London, and the theatre engaged much of his attention. His good sense and good taste could not but have had a strong perception of the excellence of Dryden's poetical talents, to which we may be sure he always did justice in his heart, though at one time he was induced by spleen to speak slightingly of him. In 1673, MARRIAGE A-LA-MODE was dedicated to him; and they were then on such friendly terms as to correspond together, as appears from a letter of Dryden to him, which will be found in a subsequent page. Whether, however, from a jealousy in his nature, which could not endure that the reputation even of those whom he patronized should rise above a certain point, or from caprice, or from whatever other cause, he not only neglected, but ridiculed and endeavoured to depreciate several poets whom he had previously commended and supported. Otway, in the Preface to DON CARLOS, in 1676, says, he "could never enough acknowledge the unspeakable obligations he had received from the Earl of Rochester, who seemed almost to make it his business to establish that play in the good opinion of the King and his Royal Highness [the Duke of York]:" and in the following year, in the Dedication of TITUS AND BERENICE to the same nobleman, he owns with gratitude, that he had found him a most generous and bountiful patron. Yet of poor Otway in a year or two afterwards, in a SESSION OF THE POETS, Rochester thus writes:

"Tom Otway came next, Tom Shadwell's dear zany *,
And swears for heroicks he writes best of any:
DON CARLOS his pockets so amply had fill'd,
That his mange was quite cur'd, and his lice were all kill'd.
But Apollo had seen his face on the stage,
And prudently did not think fit to engage
The scum of a playhouse for the prop of an age."

'In like manner, having raised Crowne into some degree of reputation, in two years afterwards, on his DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM meeting with great success, Rochester withdrew his favour from him, "as if," says the author of a pretended letter under the name of St. Evremont, "he would be still in contradiction to the town." Nor did Shadwell or Settle escape from his satire, though, for particular purposes, he at one period was their protector. But in addition to the general inconstancy or jealousy of his nature, another motive prompted him to endeavour to mortify and depress our author: this was Dryden's attachment to Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave, who had publickly branded Rochester as a coward for refusing

'* Otway appeared on the stage in the part of the King in Mrs. Behn's JEALOUS BRIDEGROOM, which was performed at the Duke's Theatre in 1672; but was so "*dash'd*," as Downes expresses it, by the fulness of the house, "which put him into a tremendons agony, that he was spoiled for an actor." ROSC. ANGL. p. 34.

to

to fight him. Dryden's intimacy with Sheffield probably commenced about the end of the year 1673, when he was twenty-five years old; from which time to that of his own death, Rochester was a determined enemy of our author. In return for the Dedication of MARRIAGE A-LA-MODE in the spring of that year, he appears to have written a letter of thanks to Dryden, not now extant, which produced the letter from the poet already mentioned: but soon afterwards all friendly correspondence and intercourse must have ceased between them; for in this very year he warmly espoused the interest of Elkanah Settle, introduced him at Court as a rival, if not superiour poet, and wrote a Prologue which was spoken before that author's EMPRESS OF MOROCCO, when it was exhibited at Whitehall. To this play, which was published in 1673, is prefixed a Dedication containing some sarcasms on Dryden, or as he expresses it, "a most arrogant, calumniating, ill-natured and scandalous preface;" and still more to aggravate the offence, the play was ornamented with sculptures, and sold at an uncommon price.'

At p. 180. we are informed who were the principal persons engaged in the translation of Plutarch's Lives, and what share Dryden had in the work. As the account is curious, and introduces to our notice some memoirs of a gentleman and scholar who has been variously represented, and who is suspected of having been the author of the celebrated Letters of Junius, we shall transcribe it.

'The old version of the Lives of Plutarch, by Sir Thomas North, having become somewhat obsolete, a new translation of that most instructive and valuable work was undertaken by a "mob of gentlemen," many of them bred at Cambridge, and friends of our author. Among the translators the most eminent were, Creech, Duke, Knightly Chetwood, John Caryll, Rymer, Dr. Brown, the traveller, Dr. William Oldys, and Mr. Somers, afterwards Lord Chancellor. To this work Dryden contributed, it should seem, the Prefatory Advertisement *, and a very pleasing Life of that amiable historian, to whom we are more indebted for the characters of the most celebrated persons in Greece and Rome, and a thousand interesting circumstances relating to them, than to all the ancients besides. This translation, of which the first volume was published 1683 †, though very unequally and imperfectly executed, continued, with all its defects, to be generally read from that time to the year 1758, when the proprietor put it into the hands of Samuel Dyer, Esq. a man of excellent taste and profound erudition; whose principal literary work, under a Roman signature, when the veil with which for near thirty-one years it has been inveloped, shall be removed, will place him in a high rank among English writers, and transmit a name, now little known, with distinguished lustre to

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'* See vol. ii. p. 424, n. 6; and vol. iii. p. 388, n. 7.'

'† The first volume of Plutarch's Lives, with the Life of Plutarch, was entered in the Stationers' Books by Jacob Tonson, April 25, 1683.'

posterity,

posterity. He revised the whole of the former translation, comparing it with, and correcting it by, the Greek original; but translating only two of the lives anew*. A very good version of Plutarch's Lives having since been made, that Mr. Dyer did not do more is the less to be regretted.'

Here Mr. Malone adds the following 'long note:'

'Though I was not acquainted with this gentleman, nor ever saw him, I take this opportunity of vindicating his fame; having learned from the late Sir Joshua Reynolds, and other respectable persons, that he was a very learned, virtuous, and amiable man. He was born about the year 1725; was bred at Northampton, under the care of Dr. Doddridge; and for some time had the benefit of being instructed by the learned Dr. John Ward, Professor of Rhetorick in Gresham College. He afterwards studied under Professor Hutcheson at Glasgow; from which place he was removed to Leyden, where he completed his education. In 1759 he became a Commissary in our army in Germany, and continued in that station to the end of the seven years' war: after which, he returned into England; and, on the formation of the LITERARY CLUB in 1764, he was the first member *elected* into that very respectable Society; with whom he continued to associate, and by whom he was highly esteemed, to the time of his death, in September, 1772.—From an excellent portrait of this gentleman, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, a mezzotinto print was scraped by his pupil Marchi; of which a copy was made for the edition of the ENGLISH POETS, published by the booksellers of London in 1779, and erroneously prefixed to the works of *John* Dyer, the author of THE FLEECE, and other poetical compositions.

'Mr. Samuel Dyer is acknowledged, even by an enemy, to have been "an excellent classical scholar, a great mathematician and natural philosopher, well versed in the Hebrew, and master of the Latin, French, and Italian languages. Added to these emdowments, he was of a temper so mild, and in his conversation so modest and unassuming, that he engaged the attention and affection of all around him. In all questions of science, Dr. Johnson looked up to him; and in his Life of Watts among the Poets, [where he calls him "the late learned Mr. Dyer,"] has cited an observation of his,—that Watts had confounded the idea of space with that of *empty* space, and did not consider, that though space might be without matter, yet matter, being extended, could not be without space."

'Such is the testimony borne to Mr. Dyer's worth and attainments, by one who was once his intimate friend;† but he has added to it such a representation of his moral character, as, if it were correct, ought to brand his name to all posterity. Some of the charges brought against him are extremely curious. 1. That having been intended and bred by his parents for the ministry, he did *not* become a dissenting teacher. 2. That he did *not* translate Dr. Daniel Williams's religious tracts into Latin. 3. That he frequently partook of dinners, and suppers, and card-parties, at the houses of his friends. 4. That he began to translate a book from the French, but *abandoned*

'* Demetrius and Pericles.' † Sir John Hawkins.

that

that work. 5. That he would *not* undertake to write the life of Erasmus. 6. That the tenderness of his heart so far got the better of his regard to decorum, that he frequently visited a dear male friend and fellow-student, who happened to be seized with a malignant disorder, in a house of ill fame. 7. That he was much captivated by the learning, wit, politeness, and elegance of his friend; qualifications of which, we are told, Mr. Dyer, as a *philosopher*, ought not to have been emulous.—To such accusations no answer is necessary; but two others, of a very different complexion, require to be stated in the author's own words:

" It was *whispered* to me by one who *seemed* pleased that he was in the secret, that Mr. Dyer's religion, was that of Socrates. What *farther advances* he made in Theism, I could not learn; *nor will I venture to assert* that which *some* expressions that I have heard *drop* from him led me to *fear*, viz. that he denied, in the philosophical sense of the term, the freedom of the human will, and settled in materialism and its consequent tenets."

' On this statement is is only necessary to observe, that there is no man whose orthodoxy may not be questioned, if such evidence as is here produced, be admitted. What Mr. Dyer's religious opinions were, I have no means of knowing; but common charity forbids our assent to so vague, conjectural, and unsupported a charge; nor is it by any means probable, that so excellent an understanding as Mr. Dyer is known to have possessed, should have been bewildered or shaken by the gloomy sophistry of Deists or Infidels. Very different kind of proof than—" it was *whispered* to me," and " *I will not venture to assert*," &c. will be required by every candid man, before he acquiesces in the belief of what this writer was so very *fearful* was the case, or supposes that a person of extraordinay talents, who was extremely beloved by many worthy men, was a fatalist and an unbeliever.

' To finish this dark portrait, we are further told, that—" About the time of this event [some pecuniary losses], he was seized with a quinsy, which *he was assured* was mortal; but whether he *resigned himself* to the slow operations of that disease, or *precipitated his end by an act of self-violence*, was, and yet is, a question among his friends."

' What at the time of Mr. Dyer's decease were the conversation or opinions of his friends, this writer had little means of learning; for, for some years before that event, I know, several of them held with him no intercourse whatsoever. And I think it but common justice further to add, that on inquiry several years ago, from some friends of unquestionable authority, who were well acquainted with Mr. Dyer, and had sufficient means of being truly informed, I learned, that for the foregoing uncharitable suggestion there was not the slightest ground; that gentleman, to the knowledge of several persons who attended him in his last illness, having died a natural death, in consequence of that dangerous disorder, a quinsy, in spite of the best medical assistance, proving fatal to him; to the great grief of his surviving friends, one of whom, a gentleman of distinguished talents, virtue, and piety, honoured his memory with the following eulogium, which was published in a newspaper of the day,

and

and which it cannot be supposed such a man would have written in commemoration of an infidel and a suicide.

" On Tuesday morning [Sept. 14th, 1772,] died at his lodgings in Castle-street, Leicester Fields, Samuel Dyer, Esq. Fellow of the Royal Society. He was a man of profound and general erudition; and his sagacity and judgment were fully equal to the extent of his learning. His mind was candid, sincere, and benevolent; his friendship disinterested and unalterable. The modesty, simplicity, and sweetness of his manners rendered his conversation as amiable as it was instructive, and endeared him to those few who had the happiness of knowing intimately that valuable unostentatious man, and his death is to them a loss irreparable."

' I shall add but one word more. When the great and amiable Lord Essex was strongly pressed to put Raleigh on a Court Martial for disobedience of orders, he replied,—" That I would do, *if he were my friend.*"—If the writer of the very unfavourable character which has been now examined, who was certainly *not* Mr. Dyer's friend for some years before his death, had been governed by this generous sentiment, this long note would have been unnecessary.'

The reader will find some farther mention of Mr. S. Dyer, extracted from a publication by Mr. Chalmers, in the preceding article, p. 128. It is to be regretted that Mr. C. should have contributed to the diffusion of those defamatory suggestions by Sir John Hawkins, relative to Mr. Dyer, which it is here the object of Mr. Malone to reprobate and to confute.

Dryden left three sons, Charles, John, and Erasmus-Henry; and tenderness and affection for his children form a distinguishing feature in his character. These young men are represented by a lady, who knew them personally, to have been, " fine, ingenious, and accomplished gentlemen." Many interesting particulars will be found in the pages which Mr. Malone has allotted to them; and in which he examines at some length the account given by Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, (known by the name of Corinna,) respecting the poet's confidence in judicial astrology, and his eldest son's accidental death: pointing out the inconsistencies, absurdities, and falsehoods of her relation.

We shall conclude our extracts with two or three instances of Dryden's talent for repartee, though he was by no means remarkable for wit in conversation.

' According to Steele, " when a young fellow just come from the play of CLEOMENES, told him in raillery against the continency of his principal character, ' If I had been left alone with a fair lady, I should not have passed my time like your Spartan;' ' That may be,' answered the bard, with a very grave face; ' but give me leave to tell you, Sir, you are no hero."

' Lady Elizabeth Dryden, one morning, having come into his study at an unseasonable time, when he was intently employed on some

some composition, and finding he did not attend to her, exclaimed, "Lord, Mr. Dryden, you are always poring upon these musty books;—I wish I was a book, and then I should have more of your company."—"Well, my dear," replied the poet, "when you do become a book, pray let it be an Almanack; for then, at the end of the year, I shall lay you quietly on the shelf, and shall be able to pursue my studies without interruption."—

'A gentleman returning from one of D'Urfey's plays, the first night it was acted, said to Dryden, "Was there ever such stuff? I could not have imagined that even this author could have written so ill."—"O, Sir," replied the old bard, "you don't know my friend Tom so well as I do: I'll answer for him, he shall write worse yet."

Our quotations from this volume will satisfy our readers that the work is not devoid of either entertainment or information: but, as we before observed, they will find too many pages allotted to uninteresting details, and minute investigations. The unpleasing task, however, of dwelling longer on the editor's faults is spared us by the publication of an essay which will be the subject of our next article, and of which the manifest object is to ridicule the labours of Mr. Malone.

The first volume is ornamented by a frontispiece containing three engravings of Mr. Dryden; the first from an original portrait in the picture gallery at Oxford, probably painted in his thirty-third year, 1664;—the second from a print engraved by Faithorne, jun. after Closterman's picture, executed probably about the year 1690; and the third from a portrait drawn by Sir Godfrey Kneller in 1698.

S.R.

Art. V. *The Essence of Malone*, or, the "Beauties" of that fascinating Writer, extracted from his immortal Work, in five hundred, sixty-nine Pages, and a quarter, just published; and (with his accustomed felicity,) entitled "*Some* Account of the Life and Writings of John Dryden!!" 2d Edition, enlarged. 8vo. pp. 150. 3s. 6d. Becket. 1800.

It must be acknowleged that much of the ridicule and censure, contained in this pamphlet, has been provoked by Mr. Malone's frequent digressions, and details of insignificant particulars, *magno conatu nugæ;* yet it must also be allowed that the author of the present publication has not only exhibited his victim in a ludicrous point of view where such a display was justifiable, but has created opportunities of reprehension for which Mr. M. is not accountable *.

This

* Our readers might imagine that an instance of misrepresentation may be derived even from the title-pages of the two publications,

This work is professedly ironical, avowing an admiration while it is the deadly adversary of the *Malonian manner*; and with *some* 'felicity,' the Roman signature of *Minutius Felix* is subjoined to it, though we think that the name assumed by the original inventor of the *Cross-Readings* was more fortunate, when he called himself *Papyrius Cursor*. In the biographical Canons here promulgated, and of which the original idea seems to have been taken from Edwards's celebrated *Canons of Criticism*, (published above fifty years ago,) much humour and well-applied satire are discovered.—The author lays it down as his first law, that a biographer should not only be correct in *trifles*, and *copious* to their *details*, but he should reform his own frequent inaccuracies backwards and forwards, till the reader is more in the dark than ever; and he supports his position by numerous pertinent citations from the object of his irony.

Mr. Malone also furnishes but too many exemplifications of this satirical writer's second Canon, namely, that 'the life of A. should be the lives of B. C. D. &c. to the end of the alphabet:' yet, from this part of Mr. M.'s production, we have derived the greatest entertainment. These Canons will remind our readers of an exquisite paper in *the World*, written by that "veteran in literature," Mr. Owen Cambridge; in which he describes, with humour that will bear a comparison with Lucian, the manner of writing history, and the fittest subjects to be introduced.

Of the third Canon, that 'a biographer cannot be too minute in what relates to his hero,' above twenty examples are produced; and it must be confessed, as we observed in the preceding article, that Mr. Malone's volume is very prolific in such illustrations. We shall transcribe two passages, in order to give our readers at the same time a competent idea of the nature of the original work, and of the talents of this severe but able reviewer:

'*Dryden* was born at *Aldwinkle*, in the county of *Northampton*.

'*Fuller*, *the historian*, was born at the same place.

'Who would think *Aldwinkle* a *generic* name, with branches and varieties that are full of intricacy! Yet we shall find the

"*dignum vindice nodum*,"

before we are much older.

"*Tradition* says, that he was born at the *parsonage House* of *Aldwinkle-All-Saints*."

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when they observe from our copy of Mr. Malone's title that he styles his biography '*an* account,' &c. and when they find the commentator sarcastically remarking on the alleged expression '*some* account,' &c. On turning, however, to the first page of Mr. M.'s life of Dryden, the obnoxious adjective *some* makes its inauspicious appearance.

"He

" He (*Dryden* himself) has told us, that he was born in a village belonging to the *Earl* of *Exeter.*"

" That village *must* have been *Aldwinkle, St. Peter's.*"

" But DRYDEN might not have known it!!!" " i. e. might have *thought it was* the estate of *Lord Exeter*, when it was *not!*"

' We attribute, here, to a celebrated poet the most poetical confusion of local names, and the sublimest ignorance of local facts, respecting his *own* place of nativity, that perhaps the Muses ever produced, as living marks of their indifference to historical truth, where even the poet they love, *condescends* to deal with it, and *affects* compliance with it. The *editor* of a *poet* imbibes a little of that cup, and every *supposition* of such a *mistake*, though in prose, is *poetical*;—He is himself the *sublime*, that he delineates, which is the character, if I recollect, of his lineal ancestor, *Longinus!*

" *Yet Aldwinkle-All-Saints*, has *tradition* for it (*besides* the author's assertion, which, if he had not been a *poet*, would have had its weight.)"

" This *tradition, however*, may have arisen from the fact, that *Pickering*, his maternal grandfather, was *Rector* of that parish;—*but* he did not obtain his preferment till 16 years after *Dryden*'s death!"

" He *might*, however, have been curate of *Aldwinkle All-Saints*, and *perhaps rented* the *Parsonage house* of the Rector!"

' What luminous doubts are these! and how they jump over sticks backwards and forwards! No *certainty* can equal the effect of such *perhapses*, *mays*, and *mights!*

' But let us resume the village!

" It is a *village*—if indeed it should not rather be called *villages*—upper and lower."

" It is on the *western* bank of the *Nen.*"

" It has *two hundred families!*"

" It comprehends a *part* of the two villages of *Aldwinkle St. Peter's*, and *Aldwinkle All Saints.*"

' Mark the delightful intricacy of these branches from the *generic* tree!

" *Aldwinkle*—the *genus.*"

' 1st. *Species*—*upper* and *lower Aldwinkle.*

' 2d. *Aldwinkle All-Saints*—*Aldwinkle St. Peters.*

' 1st. Subdivision of the first and second branch.

' *The parts* of *All-Saints and St. Peter's*, lying in *upper and lower Aldwinkle.*

' Subdivision 2d.

' *Parts of A. All Saints, and A. St. Peter's, not* in *upper* nor in *lower Aldwinkle!!*

" It is *about* a mile *and a half* distant from *Tichmarsh.*"

" But *near five* miles from *Oundle!!*"

' Who would now conceive that *Malone* doubted of *Dryden*'s birth in some *one* of these *Aldwinkles?*

' But all of a sudden, like *Bays*, to " *elevate* and *surprize*," the *editor* archly whispers, that if it was not inconsistent with *Dryden*'s own account, (which—as *Malone* affirms—does not apply to the village he names) " *he* should *suppose* him born in *Tichmarsh!*" Mark

the reasons!—and shew me the man who *would*, or *could* resist them!

" 1st. *Gilbert Pickering*, his maternal great grandfather, had a seat there!!

2d. *Sir Erasmus Dryden*, his paternal grandfather, lived there!" (pp. 3, 4, and 5.) * *Probatum est.*'

" *Dryden's* " *Mac Flecnoe*" was reprinted by *him* with *slight alterations.*

" To gratify *curious readers*, (i. e. curious after *slight alterations*) they are (all) given below.

' They occupy *two pages*, and are of the following kind:

1 edition	—	—	—	—	*paper.*
2 edition	—	—	—	—	*papers.*
1 edition	—	—	—	—	*to.*
2 edition	—	—	—	—	*in.*
1 edition	—	—	—	—	*poppey.*
2 edition	—	—	—	—	*poppeys.* †

' To compress and epitomize the numerous examples above stated, of this interesting *Canon*, is no easy task, yet I wish to make the attempt.

' —— *Dryden*'s name *had been* spelt with an *i.*

—— He was born at *Aldwinkle*, but it was *not* the *Aldwinkle*, that *he* supposed.

—— His original stock was from *Cumberland.* It was *not* from *Huntingdon.*

—— His great *grandfather* was *perhaps* called " *Erasmus*" from his maternal grandfather, *Erasmus Cope*, who took the name from *his* godfather, who was the celebrated *Erasmus.*

—— One of his *ten* sisters married a bookseller; another a tobacconist.

—— *He* was *not* a fellow of *Trinity College;*
His cousin *Jonathan* was.

—— He was *not* a contributor to verses in *Cromwell*'s honor.

—— His father was a justice of the peace;
perhaps a *committee man;*
probably a *presbyterian.*

---

* " I remember a repartee in *King Charles's* reign. It was about the time of *Oates's* plot. A cousin-*german* of mine was at the *Bear* in *Holborn.*—No—I am out—it was at the *Cross Keys*—but *Jack Thompson* was there,—for he was the intimate friend of the person who said the witty thing.—I am sure it was in that neighbourhood, for we drank a bottle thereabouts every evening." Having settled the *geography* of the *jest*, he told his audience the birth and parentage as well as the collateral alliances of *his* family, who made the repartee, and of *his* who provoked him to it." STEELE.

' † In the Isle of QUINT-ESSENCE, visited by *Pantagruel*, some of Her Majesty's officers of state were in the act of measuring " *les sauts des puses.*" *Rabélais.*

—— His

—— His contract was to give *three* plays per annum,—*not four, nor two.*

—— The bill for his funeral came to *forty-four pounds*, and *seventeen shillings.*

—— He gave *Tonson* credit, on account, for a payment of £268 15*s.*

—— He had a patent as poet laureat.

—— His first bookseller was *Henry Herringman.*

—— He *purged* before he undertook any considerable work.

—— He was fond of *fishing.*

—— He kept *snuff* loose in his pocket.

—— He wrote in a room on a *ground* floor in *Gerrard Street.*

—— He eat at the *Mulberry Garden—tarts* with *Madam Reeve.*

—— He wrote the first lines of his *Virgil* on a *window.*

—— He did *not* enter ASTRÆA REDUX at *Stationers' Hall.*

—— He reprinted *Mac Flecnoe* with *slight* alterations, which it would gratify the *curious reader* to *lay before him!!*

"*Sic itur ad astra* *."

'And such an historian is a lanthorn, hung at the tail of the kite—up they go together.

"This it is" (in his own dignified language) TO DELINEATE THE MAN—to collect, from sources hitherto unexplored, whatever contributes to throw new lights upon his CHARACTER, and ILLUSTRATE the HISTORY of his WORKS!!!"

This lively performance has certainly given us that pleasure which such an exertion of talents, and such a stimulus to mirth, are likely to create: but the writer nevertheless appears to us to deserve some portion of that censure which he has so unsparingly bestowed on Mr. Malone. *With what measure he has meted, it shall be measured to him again.*—The pamphlet, as well as the volume which it reprobates, is too long; and it is chargeable with the fault of tediousness, which is much less pardonable in a work that professes to amuse, than in one of which the avowed object is to inform. A *true bill* containing heavier accusations will also be *found* against the writer; for so many instances of acrimony and spleen are discoverable in this production, that a suspicion of the goodness of his intentions must be created, while the powers of his mind are reluctantly acknowleged. Though the manner of his censure is playful

'* There is a passage in one of my *Roman ancestor*'s common place books, which is well expressed and very apposite.—"The eye (said he) of an historian, should be like the wrong end of a perspective glass, by which the *objects* are *lessened.*" "He should be like *swallows* that swim and flutter, but whose agility is employed *in catching flies!*" I am sorry to add that *Scriblerus*, who was acquainted with some of the family, borrowed this passage, and adopted it into *his* work.'

and light, something of a more serious nature seems to lurk beneath the surface.—The performance is universally attributed to George Hardinge, Esquire, a king's counsel, and one of the Welsh judges.

S.R.

ART. VI. *Twelve Sermons, on the Advantages which result from Christianity; and on the Influence of Christian Principles on the Mind and Conduct;* designed chiefly for the Use of Families.—To which are added *Philanthropic Tracts*, consisting of I. An Essay on the State of the Poor, and on the Means of improving it by Parochial Schools, Friendly Societies, &c. II. Rules for forming and conducting Friendly Societies, to facilitate their general Establishment. By James Cowe, M. A. Vicar of Sunbury, Middlesex. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. 8vo. pp. 320. 6s. Boards. Robson, Bremner, &c. 1800.

CLERGYMEN who are seriously devoted to the important duties of their profession, and who perceive the good effects of their pulpit-exhortations among their parishioners, are often induced to attempt an extension of their pious services by means of the press: but, commendable as the motive is, success is not the uniform consequence. The moral efficacy of parochial discourses more frequently results from the respectability and exemplary behaviour of the preacher, than from their prominent merit as compositions; and when, prompted by honest commendation, he sends them into the world divested of their chief enforcement, he is too frequently mortified by the scanty praise which they obtain from strangers to his personal virtues. Sermons may also be well adapted to the circumstances of a particular parish, and yet not be calculated to please the public eye. The orators of antiquity endeavoured to confer an additional polish even on those speeches which obtained the highest applause, before they delivered them to be copied for general inspection; well aware that a much higher degree of excellence is requisite in compositions which are to be leisurely perused, than in those which are only to be heard when recited.

We offer these remarks with the hope of checking, in some measure, the profuse accumulation of printed sermons, where the powers of the mind do not vigorously assist the intentions of the heart; and with the design of suggesting to the clergy that the praise bestowed on their discourses, when delivered, is not always a sufficient reason for committing them to the press. Mr. Cowe appears to agree with us in this opinion; and, though he has yielded to the sollicitations of friends in publishing his sermons, he has not contented himself with a

verbatim

verbatim exhibition of those reflections which were admired by his auditory. He professes to give the enlarged substance of them; and in preparing them for the world, it is fair to presume that he has taken additional pains. It is, therefore, the more to be regretted if he still has not considered, so much as we wish that he had, the extreme fastidiousness of the age; and yet more because we perceive throughout a laudable attempt to engage the attention, and to improve the hearts of his readers. He informs us that, 'at the request of several persons, for whose judgment he has the highest respect, he has been induced to divide a late publication "*On the Advantages which result from Christianity*" into several sermons (into nine); to exhibit the doctrines, the evidences, the precepts, and the motives of our holy religion, in a regular order; and make such additions, and new arrangements, as seemed most consistent with perspicuity.' Perhaps his arrangements may not wholly satisfy the critical and the learned: but this is the less important, as he is chiefly sollicitous of informing persons in the humble walks of life, and 'that his sermons should not exceed the powers of an ordinary man's attention.' His great and highly laudable object in the discourses now before us, as well as in his tracts formerly published, is to promote the improvement and happiness of mankind; which he endeavours to effect by diffusing religious sentiments and moral principles, among those who have little leisure and opportunity for the perusal of larger theological works.

Every person ought to be satisfied with that degree of praise which belongs to the scope and intent of his labours, and this praise we can here honestly bestow: but we are so well convinced of Mr. Cowe's good sense, candour, benevolence, and virtuous zeal, that we cannot refrain from wishing that, in various parts, he had more attentively touched and re-touched his discourses, before he submitted them to the ordeal of public criticism. By attempting to spread, he appears to us in some places to have disjointed his thoughts; and, occasionally, inferences are deduced from doctrines to which they do not most properly belong. Thus, in a sermon on a text (Phil. ii. 5.) which induced us to expect principally a delineation of the Christian temper or character, we have chiefly a dissertation on the Evidences of Christianity; and in another, after having been told that '*Christianity* appears to be a stupendous *dispensation of mercy*, which forms our minds to gratitude, humility, and devotion,' reference is made to the Lord's prayer, and we are exhorted 'every morning and evening to thank God for our *existence*, *powers*, and *faculties*.' The remark is just: but Mr. C. must perceive that gratitude for our *existence*, *powers*,

and *faculties*, does not immediately emanate from the consideration of the *Gospel* as a stupendous *dispensation of mercy.*

'With a similar inattention, in Sermon I., Mr. Cowe observes to the common people of the country;—'blessed with honest intentions and an upright heart, and accustomed from your infancy to the numerous comforts of an European life, you would not be happy in the sandy desarts of Africa or in the dreary wilds of America.' The truth of this assertion is not to be disputed: but, though they would be unhappy in the desarts of Africa, or in the wilds of America, *in consequence of their having been used to European comforts*, surely their having been blessed with honest intentions and an upright heart would be no source of wretchedness.

In Sermon IV. the worthy preacher has committed a little mistake, which he will permit us to point out to him. Speaking of the Lord's Supper, he observes that 'the participation of this ordinance has been the uniform, uninterrupted practice of Christians, of all ranks, from the apostolic age down to the present day.' Here it appears that he did not advert to that respectable sect, vulgarly called Quakers, who neither employ the administration of Baptism nor that of the Holy Supper: but who, nevertheless, though they dissent in these particulars from Mr. C. and the generality of Christians, will doubtless agree with him in the sentiment expressed at the conclusion of this sermon, that 'God requires the religion of the heart, and that the best sacrifice which we can offer to our Maker is a pious and virtuous life.'

These blemishes, as well as others of a similar kind which might be adduced, are trifles which we specify solely for the purpose of stimulating the author to greater precision and accuracy. We have formerly noticed him with a degree of commendation (see M. R. vol. xxv. N. S. p. 181.) which these strictures are not meant to invalidate, but rather to excite to future exertions which shall demand enlarged praise. Indeed, we shall not now part with him without repeating our good opinion; nor without assisting him in the fairest way to make a favourable impression on our readers, by permitting him to speak more at large for himself.

In the third sermon, designing to illustrate the beneficial tendency of the truths of Christianity, he observes:

'As a further inducement to maintain steady and consistent characters, it may not be useless here to add, that, wherever the genuine doctrines of Christianity are neglected, that neglect will produce impiety, dishonesty, and dissoluteness of manners. But, if the essential principles of religion and morality are inculcated and imbibed, the gloom of ignorance will be gradually dispelled; the love of truth, of virtue,

virtue, and of devotion, will increase; liberal and useful arts will be cultivated and advanced; and a farther reformation in the manners, the views, and the morals of mankind, will take place. Deeply is it to be lamented, that many of the lower ranks of society still continue in gross ignorance; it is, however, to be hoped, that a time will come, when Parochial Schools will be established, and proper means used, to disseminate, more effectually, the principles and the practice of piety, probity, benevolence, and sobriety, among the rising generation. In the mean time, it is earnestly recommended to you, as you value your children's happiness, to use your utmost efforts to give them such a degree of knowlege, and especially of religious knowlege, as will tend to check the progress of ignorance and immorality; will qualify them for fulfilling the duties of their station; and will prove a great comfort to you in the decline of life.'

The subsequent passage in the eighth sermon will be read with much pleasure:

'God has given us a moral law to regulate our conduct, on the observance of which the peace, the order, and the happiness of society depend. We are enjoined, to "deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly." If, therefore, we violate the rules of sobriety and moral rectitude, we injure ourselves; we introduce confusion and misery among mankind; and, without sincere repentance, we shall at last be excluded from that blessed society of perfect spirits in a better world. For to attain future happiness, our nature must be purified from vicious habits. God is a pure and holy Spirit, and cannot dwell in an impure and polluted heart. We must, therefore, eradicate, as far as we are able, every sinful propensity; we must avoid the solicitations of bad company; we must subdue the impulse of sensual passions; and we must acquire habits of self-government and purity. This sobriety consists not in a renunciation of the comforts and enjoyments of life. True religion requires no such sacrifice. It consists in guarding against criminal excess; in restraining our appetites within the bounds of reason and religion; in taking care that our minds be sound and well-regulated, and not contaminated by pride, envy, or revenge; and in cultivating, through Divine grace, the seeds of every Christian virtue—"love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, fidelity, meekness, temperance." A Christian, then, can neither be slothful, dissipated, nor intemperate. For, by indolence or drunkenness, our bodily and our mental powers are weakened and debased. In the Apostolic age, the manners of the Pagans were extremely dissolute. Christianity has certainly introduced a considerable improvement into the state of society. But, if its divine precepts were universally observed; if piety, probity, benevolence, and temperance, regulated all our sentiments and conduct; what a change would still take place in the world! What love and gratitude to God! What justice and veracity, what peace and charity, among men! And what sobriety and chastity towards ourselves!'

To the 9th sermon, on the future destination of the human race, the following practical observations are subjoined:

'All the principles, and all the precepts of the Gospel, tend to sanctify the heart, and concur in enforcing a sober, a virtuous, and devout life; and in evincing the importance and necessity of piety, justice, charity, and purity. Those discoveries of a state of immortality, which we enjoy, and which enable us to bear with patience the pains of disease, and the various distresses of life, naturally lead us, as moral agents, to cultivate integrity of conduct, and to prize, beyond expression, that divine religion, which removes every apprehension about our future existence. They are not intended, however, to gratify an idle curiosity, but to reform the heart, and to influence the practice. Remember, then, that every moral duty is enforced on evangelical principles, by the most awful sanctions; and that the precepts of Christianity regulate the affections, strengthen the bonds of society, and inculcate the most sublime virtue. Let it, therefore, be deeply impressed on all your hearts, that the design of the Christian religion is to promote purity of mind, and sanctity of life; and that immoral practices are incompatible with, and destructive of, the important end, for which it was revealed.'

The remaining sermons and tracts have already been mentioned in our work.

Mo-yr

ART. VII. *A Hebrew Grammar*, for the Use of the Students of the University of Dublin. By the Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, D.D. Hebrew Professor in said University. 8vo. pp. 200. Boards. Dublin. 1799.

OF the very great number of Hebrew grammars which have been published since the revival of letters, that of *Buxtorf* has been long the reigning favorite of the schools; and undoubtedly, as a Masoretical body of rules, it is the best that has yet appeared in the same compass. The huge volumes of *Guarin* contain many useful observations, particularly with respect to Syntax: but their bulk will ever prevent them from being in common use; and they are also incumbered with so many *minutiæ* respecting points and accents, that they are likely to disgust the learner, *in ipso limine*. This, indeed, was the case with all the more antient Hebrew grammars, before Capellus published his admirable work, *Arcanum punctuationis revelatum;* since which period, several attempts have been made to divest Hebrew grammar of its superfluous precepts, and to facilitate the acquirement of a language which is so necessary for the intelligence of scripture, and other theological purposes. Methods were even invented to teach Hebrew without the aid of *any* points; and unpointed editions of the Bible were printed for the use of those who wished to learn the language by those new modes.

The chief of these grammatical innovators was *Mascleff*, a canon of Amiens; who, in the year 1716, published the first

edition of his *Grammatica Hebræa, à punctis aliisque Masorethicis inventis libera.* In 1731 he gave a second edition in two volumes, with the accession of short grammars of the Chaldee, Syriac, and Samaritan dialects, on the same plan; and an elegant and pithy refutation of the objections of *Guarin*, who had strenuously attacked the former edition, in his preface to the above mentioned Grammar *.—Father *Houbigant*, of the Oratory, so well known for his splendid edition of the Hebrew Bible and his elegant Latin version, intended to give a third edition of *Masclef*, with a copious defence of his method against all its adversaries; among whom the principal, now, was the celebrated *Schultens*:—but, from what causes we know not, this projected edition never appeared. *Masclef*, however, had many followers in France; and the learned of that nation were divided in opinion, as to the superior utility of his new plan: but the greater number of Dutch and German critics opposing it, and the study of Hebrew letters declining in France, it has gradually fallen into disuse, and is now only found on the shelves of the curious. Perhaps it carried things to an extremity, by rejecting altogether the Masoretic punctuation, and substituting a novel and arbitrary pronunciation of the Hebrew letters: yet still it is an ingenious system; and there is no doubt that the Hebrew language may be more readily learned by it, than by the Buxtorfian method. It was introduced into England, with some alterations, by Hutchinson; followed by Bate and Parkhurst; and, more recently, by Professor Wilson of the University of St. Andrew's, in two editions of his Hebrew Grammar:—while Professor James Robertson, of Edinburgh, warmly defended the opposite system of his master *Schultens*; especially in the second edition of his Hebrew Grammar, published about twenty years ago †.

Professor Fitzgerald, in the Hebrew Grammar now before us, appears to have imitated L'Advocat, in steering a middle course; and he has given a plain, easy, and useful introduction to the Hebrew tongue, in English, for the use of students in our Universities, and particularly in the University of Dublin. 'To avoid (says he) the inconvenience of both methods, I have adopted an intermediate one, by retaining the vowel points, and such of the accents as are most distinguishable and useful: all the other accents, of which the number is consi-

* This edition was completed by *De la Bletterie*, the author dying during the impression.

† See Rev. vol. xix. anno 1758, p. 609, for an account of the first edition.

derable, appear to me wholly unnecessary, in the present state of the language.'—In this remark we incline to agree with the Professor; and, with pleasure, we add that we consider his work as a valuable compendium of Hebrew grammar,—perhaps, the best that has yet appeared in our own language.

It will not be expected that we should make large quotations from a work of this nature: but we shall give one specimen from the appendix, which contains some good observations *on the idioms and imagery of the Hebrew:*

'Of the idioms of the Hebrew some examples have been already given, as they occasionally arose from the nature of the subject: the following passages will exhibit others in a clearer and more collected point of view; and, to those who are prepared for the study of the Bible, will prove, I trust, no unacceptable introduction to it:

'Thus, from the rays of light breaking through openings, the dawning of the day is called עַפְעַפֵּי-שָׁחַר "The eye-lids of the morning," Job, iii. 9.

'And in the same figurative beauty of expression, a bird is called בַּעַל כָּנָף— "A master of the wing," Prov. i. 17.

'Wine—דַּם עֵנָב "the blood of the grape," Deut. xxxii. 14.

'Flame—לְשׁוֹן אֵשׁ "A tongue of fire," Is. v. 24.

'The sea-shore—שְׂפַת הַיָּם * "The lip of the sea," Gen. xxii. 17.

'Intimate friends—מְתֵי סוֹדִי † "The men of my secret," Job, xix. 19.

'A slanderer or evil speaker—אִישׁ לְשׁוֹן "A man of tongue," Ps. cxl. 11.

'An hundred years old—בֶּן-מֵאָה שָׁנָה "The son of an hundred years," Is. lxv. 20.

'Threshed-out corn—בֶּן-גֹּרֶן "Son of the floor," Is. xxi. 10.

'An arrow—בֶּן-קֶשֶׁת "Son of the Bow," Job, xli. 9.

'Sparks—בְּנֵי-רֶשֶׁף ‡ "Sons of the burning coal," Job, v. 7.

'The same mode of expression is adopted by the Apostle, as in the following instance "ye are all *υἱοι του φωτὸς* the children of light," i. e. enlightened by Christianity. 1 Thess. v. 5.

'The hand, eye, face, &c. are sometimes used in a peculiar manner by the Hebrews. ex. gr.

'הִנֵּה ‖ שִׁפְחָתֵךְ בְּיָדֵךְ "Behold! Thy maid is in thy hand," i. e. in thy power. Gen. xvi. 6.

'* In Regimen, for שָׂפָה f. sing. † In Reg. for מְתִים m. plur.

'‡ In Reg. for בָּנִים, from בָּנָה to *build.*

'‖ In Reg. with an *affix*, from שִׁפְחָה *a handmaid.*

הַרְמֹתִי

'הֲרִמֹתִי יָדִי אֶל־יְהוָה' * "I have lift up my hand unto the Lord," i. e. I have sworn. Gen. xiv. 22.

'שִׂים נָא יָדְךָ תַּחַת יְרֵכִי' † "Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh," i. e. swear unto me. Gen. xlvii. 29.

'אִישׁ הַיָּשָׁר בְּעֵינָיו יַעֲשֶׂה:' "Every man did (*what was*) right in his own eyes," i. e. what pleased him. Judges, xvii. 6.'

We do not think that the author is equally happy in his explanation of some difficult passages of scripture; particularly that of Ps. lxviii. 14. which he thus renders: "Though ye have lien among the pots (*ye shall be as*) the wings of a dove, which are covered with silver, and her feathers with refulgent gold." 'That is (says he) ye shall be, not as when bond-men in Egypt, among pots and bricks; ye shall rise from this *oppressed*, *obscure* and *contemptible* condition, to a *free*, *splendid* and *glorious* one—ye shall be as a dove whose "wings are covered with silver, and her feathers with gold." Here (he adds) the contrast, as to colour, is very remarkable,—between the gay silver and gold plumage of the dove, and the mean squalid appearance which the Israelites must have contracted during their *brick-making* in Egypt.'—What will some of our profound modern critics say, on reading this comment?

Ged..s.

ART. VIII. *A Journey into Cornwall*, through the Counties of Southampton, Wilts, Dorset, Somerset and Devon: interspersed with Remarks, Moral, Historical, Literary, and Political. By George Lipscomb. 8vo. pp. 361. 5s. Boards. Rivingtons. 1799.

THE scattered information, which is supplied by desultory and irregular tours, can make but little permanent addition to the established stock of topographical knowlege, because it seldom finds its way to a regular station in the class to which it belongs. The journey of Mr. Lipscomb commences from Portchester castle in Portsmouth harbour, and, after having described an irregular track through the counties mentioned in his title page, concludes in London; and the greater part of the observations are such as the most cursory view is capable of affording. Indeed, there is ground for suspecting that the work was written at least as much for the sake of exercising a propensity to description, as with the view of imparting useful information. The author is frequently lost in his

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' * 1 pers. sing. præter. *hiph.* from רוּם to *raise up* or *exalt*.
' † Imper. *Hiph.* for הָשִׁים from שׁוּם.'

endeavours

endeavours to attain the pathetic and the sublime:—'The turf is verdant as eternal spring';—and the setting of the sun is thus described: 'The glorious luminary of day descended with awful silent grandeur, till, on a sudden, resting as it were for a moment on the bosom of the mighty waters, it embraced the tremendous deep, and entered into "the vast palace of darkness."—Some of Mr. L.'s rhapsodies reach far beyond this.

Among the observations better worth notice, we find the following respecting the Mill prison at Plymouth; the state of which has lately been the subject of public and of official discussion:

'In this place of confinement for French prisoners, notwithstanding the accounts propagated to the contrary, we were happy to find them in possession of many comforts as well as every necessary.'—'We were informed that a fever had lately made great ravages in the prison, and were not surprised to hear this, when we walked round the south west wall, where the stench of the sewers was intolerable. I should not have been thus minute, if I had not entertained a hope, that the hint may reach those whose peculiar province it is to regulate places of confinement; and that they may be induced to effect some beneficial alterations.'

At Buckland, in Devonshire, the author visited the church, and has given an account of the monument placed there to the memory of the late Lord Heathfield. In the same sanctuary is the monument of the late Sir Francis Henry Drake, Bart. and Mr. L. has copied the inscription, in which it is said that "His descent was illustrious, being lineally descended from the great naval warrior of the 16th century." This, the author observes, seems to contradict the accounts given in the biographical dictionaries, which mention that Sir Francis Drake, the circum-navigator, had no issue.

Mr. Lipscomb's account of the wonders performed by steam engines, at one of the tin mines near Mevagissey in Cornwall, seems to be worth extracting:

'At about the depth of 50 or 60 feet below the surface, water begins to collect, percolating through the different strata. (The whole depth of this subterranean cavern is said to be 120 fathoms). The lower parts of the mine would, of course, be overflowed by it, and the working of the ore completely obstructed, if it were not constantly carried off:—this process is now performed by an immense steam engine.

'The very extraordinary size of this stupendous piece of mechanism, which is said to have cost twenty thousand pounds, induced me to make some enquiries respecting it's force, powers, and capacity.

'I was informed, that the quantity of coal used to keep it in motion was seventy two bushels in twenty four hours. It raises sixty

sixty three gallons of water at every stroke, and performs fourteen of these motions every minute. The water thrown out upon the surface, by means of this wonderful machine, runs off like a river; and, being conducted to the mine before described, under the name of the *Happy Union* or *Stream-mine*, is there made use of, to separate the ore from the soil.

'There are two engines of this kind employed, during the wet seasons; but, in the summer, one only is found sufficient to carry off all the superfluous water: the quantity of which, upon an average, daily thrown out, according to the preceding calculation, must be upwards of nine hundred thousand gallons. But, notwithstanding the wonderful powers of the machine, the nicety of its poize is so exactly regulated, and it's perfection so complete, that the slightest pressure made with the palm of the hand upon a sort of bolt or key attached to a large valve, immediately suspends the operation of the whole; which is again as instantly restored, upon the removal of the force applied.'

In his approach towards the capital, the author is not a little indignant at the country seats which presented themselves to his view. He calls them 'ill constructed, ridiculous, habitations, miserably stuck together by narrow minded citizens;—among them, we meet with all the nonsense and absurdity which unbounded folly, aided by the assistance of wealth, can possibly have contrived:—efforts, even disgraceful to the vulgar heads which gave them birth.' Mr. L., no doubt, intended this for satire: but it appears to us to be language of a lower denomination.

The attacks of Mr. Lipscomb are not confined to the thriving citizens: but the poorer classes of people, in some parts of the country through which he passed, are mentioned with most unpardonable contempt. When we read such terms as 'brutal ignorance,' and 'almost inexterminable stupidity of the narrow minded boor', applied to Englishmen, we can scarcely regard them otherwise than as extravagant proofs of the author's affectation. Of a similar nature is the following irreverent mention of a country church-yard, though the remark itself may be true: 'the church, (at Ringwood,) usually an object of curiosity in country places, is not at all remarkable, unless for the illiterate nonsense that abounds on the grave stones.' In another part of his tour, however, he speaks of a country church yard in high-sounding terms of sensibility, and quotes Gray's ode.

At the conclusion, Mr. L. very composedly 'resigns his pen, with a corsciousness, that not a line which he has written can wound the feelings of the most delicately sensible.' We apprehend that there are many who will not agree with him in his judgment of the sensations of other people.

Capt. B...y.

ART. IX. *A Walk through some of the Western Counties of England.* By the Rev. Richard Warner, of Bath. 8vo. pp. 222. 7s. Boards. Robinsons. 1800.

THE contemplative wanderer, who is fond of moralizing, can without difficulty find a source of reflection in any object which presents itself to his view. Mr. Warner is a sentimental traveller of this description. He writes with little labour, and seldom fails to improve each opportunity of introducing a quotation. When he rises early, it is in obedience to "the breezy call of incense breathing morn;" and he arrives at his place of repose just as "the curfew tolls the knell of parting day." Frequently, also, he expresses his meaning in language that is more flowery than studied; which at first seems to please by the allurements of metaphor, but which will not bear the analysis of discriminating taste.—Mr. W. has however rendered the account of his walk entertaining. His local descriptions are as copious as the time employed in observation would easily admit; and though his readers will meet with no great depth of reflection, they will find that, when not ambitious of ornamenting his style, he can write in natural and sensible language. They will also perceive that he is a well meaning and good natured traveller, who at his outset wisely armed himself with a resolute disposition to be pleased, whatever inconveniencies might arise.

The narrative is written in the form of letters, which are addressed to a friend who accompanied the author in one of his preceding excursions *. The route pursued was from Bath to Wells and Glastonbury; thence to the shore of the Bristol channel, and along the coast to Minehead, Ilfracomb, Barnstaple, and Biddeford: whence the author made a serpentine track across the country to the coast of the British channel, and returned by the way of Glastonbury and Wells again to Bath. The journey was performed on foot, being a distance of 386 miles, and occupied seventeen days, *i. e.* from the 2d to the 19th of September 1799; the lateness of the season, and the unfavourable weather, having occasioned the author to direct his steps homeward sooner than he had originally intended.

Though such an expedition affords little opportunity for minute observation, yet Mr. W.'s concise accounts of some of the towns through which he passed will be read with pleasure. We shall extract his brief description of Barnstaple.

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* See accounts of Mr. W.'s former Tours, Rev. N. S. Vols. xxvi. p. 9, and xxxi. p. 183.

A long

'A long hill now gratified me with an extensive prospect, and displayed Barnstaple and the country round it, with some of the riches and fertility of Devonshire; a different view to any I had hitherto seen, as the Northern part of the county exhibits only rugged beauties, and majestic features. From this elevated spot, Barnstaple appeared to great advantage, situated in a broad and fertile vale, which is belted with high hills, watered by the river Taw, and adorned with many elegant gentlemen's seats. A woollen trade, formerly carried on here with considerable spirit, threw a large sum of money into the town, and enabled its inhabitants to beautify it with many very respectable houses; this trade has of late failed, but baize, silk-stocking, and waistcoat manufactories still give life to the place, which contains above four thousand inhabitants. Besides this source of wealth and population, the pleasing character of the country around, and the comparative cheapness of this part of England, have added to its inhabitants, by inducing many independent families to settle here entirely; a circumstance that renders Barnstaple by far the most genteel town in North-Devon. It boasts, indeed, some of the marks of a metropolis, balls every fortnight, and a regular theatre; and nothing is wanting to render it compleatly agreeable, save a *decent pavement;* the little oval pebbles with which its streets are studded, being not only extremely unfavourable to the shoes, but what is much worse, very injurious to the feet. A noble quay stretches along the river-side to a great length, terminated at one end by a handsome piazza, over the centre of which stands the statue of Queen Anne, with the following inscription:

'ANNA.

'Intemeratæ fidei testimonium ROBERTI ROLLE, de Stevenstone, Agro Devoniensi, Armig. 1708.'

At Totness, a town which 'boasts a situation perhaps unrivalled in point of beauty,' the incongruous mixture of Grecian with Gothic ornaments, which the author noticed in the church, incites him to express a wish that instances of perverted taste might be *heavily taxed:* which, he is of opinion, would prove more productive than any scheme of finance hitherto practised. Who should be the assessors of such a tax? It is to be feared that they would be troubled with many *appeals!*

A small wooden cut, representing the portion of the track described, is placed at the beginning of each letter; and two pleasing *acqua-tinta* views are also given, one a representation of Berry Pomeroy Castle in Devonshire, the other of Culbone church in Somersetshire.

Mr. Warner has just published a *History of Bath*, in a large 4to volume; to which we shall hereafter endeavor to pay due attention.

Capt. B....y.

ART.

ART. X. *Narrative of the Deportation to Cayenne, and Shipwreck on the Coast of Scotland,* of J. J. Job Aimé, written by himself. With Observations on the present State of that Colony, and of the Negroes; and an Account of the Situation of the deported Persons at the Time of his Escape. 8vo. pp. 282. 5s. sewed. Wright. 1800.

THIS narrative has added to the many instances before published, of the rigour and brutality which have been exercised on the victims of the revolution of the 18th Fructidor: (Sept. 4, 1797.) but the present author, notwithstanding his own sufferings, professes to derive consolation from the comparison of the events of that period with those of the more early times of the new republic:

'I know not,' he says, 'whether I am deceiving myself, but when I reflect on the great calamities to which I have been either a witness or a victim, I imagine that I perceive a progressive diminution in the atrocities of which they have been composed, if not in the phrenzy that has given them birth. Whether the public delirium was greater and stronger at the commencement, or whether the authors of our miseries were afraid again to act the scenes that had already caused so much disgust, 'tis certain the first were the most ferocious, and that though their rage by no means abated, it has still manifested itself in less dreadful consequences. Thus the massacres of the prisons were exchanged for the systematical assassinations of the revolutionary tribunals, then for the *fusillades* of the military commissions, and these last for deportation. This is certainly a cruel amelioration.'

That part of M. Aimé's narrative, which describes the treatment experienced by the persons deported to Cayenne, corresponds with former accounts; and indeed it includes many particulars with which the public were before made acquainted. In such a relation of sufferings, it is no doubt natural and justifiable that the language of complaint and invective shall often occur: but its too great frequency, instead of producing the effect intended, serves rather to blunt the feelings which a more simple statement of such facts would inevitably excite. In some instances, also, we think that the author has dwelt with too much emphasis on petty grievances; and neither the language nor the sentiments possess the ease and spirit which run through the narrative of M. Ramel *.

The account of the state and productions of Cayenne is short, but worth notice. The decree which gave liberty to the slaves at that colony, and 'which was hastily proclaimed without being preceded by any of those measures which pru-

* See Rev. Vol. xxx. N. S. p. 129.

dence

dence required,' appears not to have added to the happiness of their condition. Subsequent regulations, indeed, have abridged this liberty to little more than the name; as they are obliged to work at such plantations, and for such wages, as the principal agent of government pleases to direct, and are liable to punishment for neglect. The reflections of M. Aimé on this subject seem to involve inconsistencies:

'The productions of Cayenne are generally of the first quality, and some of them are not found in our other colonies. The cotton is in high estimation, and the coffee is classed after that of Moka. The roucou, which is so advantageously employed in colours, flourishes there. The clove is cultivated with the greatest success. The nutmeg has been greatly neglected, but there is no doubt that it would succeed. The cinnamon and the pepper trees are by no means rare; the cocoa and the vanilla are also to be found among its produce. Lastly, the sugar-cane flourishes as at Saint Domingo. Under a protecting government, and with a different system, this colony might be advanced to an high degree of prosperity.—Such was the opinion of many of the colonists; and when I objected to the miseries of the climate: We agree, said they, that French Guiana is the grave of the Europeans; but if it was more inhabited; if a course were given to the stagnant waters; if the forests were levelled, which intercept the circulation of the air, it would not be more unwholesome than the Antilles.'

The author's escape from Cayenne, his shipwreck, the humanity with which the passengers and the ship's crew were assisted by the people of Fraserburgh, (near which part of the coast of North Britain, the vessel was wrecked,) and the intrepid exertions of one of the inhabitants, (a young man named George Milne,) to which those who escaped were principally indebted for the preservation of their lives, form an interesting relation.

At the end of the narrative, is a list of persons deported to Cayenne, in which are particularized those who have died and those who have escaped. By this list, it appears that, of 329 persons embarked from France since the 1st of Vendémiaire, VIth year, 171 had died, at the time when the author quitted the colony. Twenty four had effected their escape, and two had been recalled.

For the convenience of purchasers, who may be desirous of binding this account with the former publications on the same subject, a general title is prefixed to this narrative, independently of its own title page.

Capt. B....y.

ART. XI. *Communications to the Board of Agriculture;* on Subjects relative to the Husbandry and internal Improvement of the Country. Vol. II. 4to. pp. 500. 1l. 1s. Boards. Nicol, &c. 1800.

THE title affixed to the papers, here edited by the Board of Agriculture, is certainly more appropriate than those which have generally been given to the publications of philosophical and other societies; who profess not to be responsible for any of the systems or statements contained in their periodical volumes, but only to aid the diffusion of knowlege, and of useful discussion. *Transactions* and *Memoirs*, the words which have been commonly chosen on these occasions, express more than they are meant to convey; since the essays and experiments recorded are neither the acts of the Society as a body, nor always of any of its members; nor does the Society consider itself as answerable for them, which it ought to be for *its* Transactions. In the use of the title *Communications*, there can be no such impropriety. It expresses that the object of the Society, or Board, is to collect and to disseminate the hints, discoveries, and observations of experienced men, leaving the public to decide on their respective merits.

As those establishments, which are calculated to enlarge the sphere and to keep alive the ardor of inquiry, may expect numerous suggestions relative to the professed views of their institution, we are not surprised at the appearance of a second volume * of papers on rural affairs, published by the Board of Agriculture; because, though the President may complain of the inadequacy of its funds, it enjoys authority and advantages not possessed by any other Agricultural Society. Lord Somerville, the late President, laments the large sums expended in publications, and advises the Board to limit its charges in this department: but this volume is no evidence of its having profited by the lecture of economy. Elegant paper and typography, and well-executed plates, make a handsome book, which at least does credit to the taste of the Board; and perhaps the world will not inquire whether this mode of publishing be consistent with the finances of the Society: but it is more material to consider how far it is proper that a work, which is designed for farmers and practical agriculturists, should appear in so expensive a form. Now, indeed, most farmers can as well afford to give a guinea for a book as any class of his Majesty's subjects: but, not being in the habit of this elegant indulgence, it is to be feared that the price of the

* For Vol. I. See Rev. N. S. Vols. xxv. and xxvi.

volume

volume will operate as an obstacle to the dissemination of it. Public utility required a cheaper edition. We think also that the papers should have been printed separately as well as conjointly; in order that the individual, who is desirous of information on a particular subject, might not be obliged to purchase a bulky miscellaneous volume to obtain it.

In this work, the Board of Agriculture closely copies the Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; in proposing premiums of gold and silver medals, and selecting for publication the most valuable of those papers which it has received. To the plan of stimulating by rewards, there can be few objections; and medals, or equivalents in money, are generally very convenient to both parties: yet, in the imposing situation in which the Board of Agriculture stands, it may be wise to propose other kinds of rewards, especially in the case of cottage-building for the laborious poor. This subject has not escaped attention in the list of premiums: but, if in certain well-chosen districts the Society were to erect a cottage as a *pattern*, the money thus expended would perhaps contribute more effectually to the domestic comfort of the poor, and in course to their virtue, than the distribution of a few gold medals. The pattern-cottage might have on its front some such inscription as this: *Erected by the Board of Agriculture, to manifest its zeal in promoting the comforts of the poor, and to stimulate others to go and do likewise.*

We admire the object of the second premium proposed:—'To the person who shall build on his estate the most cottages for labouring families, and assign to each a proper portion of land for the support of not less than a cow, a hog, and a sufficient garden,—*the Gold Medal:*' but, as many intelligent gentlemen and agriculturists have expressed their doubts of the propriety of generally annexing so much land to each cottage, would it not have been more judicious to confine the reward to the greatest number of cottages with gardens annexed; not more than two being together?

Of the list of offered premiums, we shall take no farther notice than by generally remarking that the objects to which they point are judiciously chosen, as connected with the internal improvement of the country.

Thirty papers on different subjects are contained in this volume. The first is intitled *Observations on the various modes of Inclosing Land:* by Robert Somerville, Esq. of Haddington.

In this communication, occupying 113 pages of rather close letter-press, and illustrated by 13 copper-plates, the writer presents a detailed account of the various fences now in use, as collected from the different surveys; and he states the

method of erecting them to the best advantage, together with the benefits and defects of each. As also connected with his subject, to which he appears to have devoted much time and attention, Mr. S. invites the proprietor or occupier of a district, which is intended to be inclosed, to consider—The nature of the soil—Its present value and probable increase—The objects chiefly requiring attention—The modes of inclosure suited to the natural circumstances of the soil, climate, &c.—and the materials for making fences, with the means of obtaining them.—It is impossible for us to enter into all the details of this treatise: in the course of which the writer gives a catalogue of Simple and Compound Fences, afterward separately discussing each, detailing their nature and advantages, and the best method of constructing them.

In the Section on *Live Hedges*, Mr. S. gives the following catalogue of *Hedge Plants:* but should he not have inserted the *Elm* and the *Maple*, which by proper management make good fences, and have omitted the mulberry and *gooseberry*, (recommended in *Miscellaneous Articles*,) at least till experience had confirmed their utility in this respect?

'1. White thorns.
2. Black ditto.
3. Crabs.
4. Briars.
5. Holly.
6. Beech.
7. Willow.
8. Birch.
9. Poplar.
10. Larch.
11. Hazel.
12. Privet.
13. Allar, or alder.
14. Elder.
15. Whins, or furze.
16. Brambles.
17. The mulberry.
18. Miscellaneous articles.'

Mr. S. also enumerates the different kinds of gates, gate-posts, and stiles; concluding with some general observations on the effects of inclosure on the population, manufactures, wealth, and public revenue of the kingdom, in which he endeavours to demonstrate that inclosing will tend to increase our numbers and our resources.

A short Sketch of the Drainage and Improvement of a Marsh near Marazion, in Cornwall; describing a peculiar Mode of taking off the Water, and securing the Land from the overflowing of the Sea. By Richard Moyle, of Marazion.

A piece of marsh, or bog, containing thirty-six acres, had been always covered by two or three feet of water, and during spring tides was overflowed by the sea, by means of a river which passed through the land. From the depressed situation of the marsh, it was impossible to drain it with the aid of the river; and recourse was had to a wooden pipe, with valves, connected

connected with the shore at the part called half-ebb: which completely answered.—In cutting the drains to this wooden pipe, a pot of copper coins, containing about 1000, which appeared to belong to the Emperor Victorinus, was discovered; and on examining the different substrata, at a considerable depth below the surface, willow trees and hazel nuts were found in the most perfect state. Could the planet which we inhabit write its history, what convulsions and revolutions would it record!

The third paper relates, in the compass of a single page, an *Embankment against the Sea*, made by Mr. Tatlow, on Lord Ashburnham's Caermarthen estate. This embankment was effected by the simple process of a furze hedge, seven feet and a half high; which served, like the groins on other parts of the coast, to collect a body of sand equal to its height, and so to break the force of the sea, and prevent its depredations on the shore.

Queries relative to the Farm at Teston, in Kent, answered by Sir Charles Middleton, Bart.

A satisfactory reply is here given to each question; and the conclusion of the whole is, that, though in raising to high condition a farm which had been much neglected and *out of heart*, the occupier may at first be materially *out of pocket*, the result of a course of years will be highly advantageous. A considerable capital, however, will be requisite to bear the drawbacks.—The Teston farm contains 250 acres; and Sir Charles states that, in the first year of its falling under his management, the whole amount of the produce consisted of two loads of hops from six acres, forty-one quarters of wheat, twenty-seven of barley, twelve of peas, and thirty loads of hay and clover; value in all, six hundred and ninety four pounds; whereas, he adds; 'I have had on the same farm, in its improved state, nineteen loads of hops, one hundred and thirty quarters of wheat, thirty-seven of barley, one hundred and thirty-seven of beans, five thousand two hundred and forty bushels of potatoes, and eighty-three loads of hay: value in all, four thousand two hundred and twenty-seven pounds.'

Observations on the State of America. By William Strickland, Esq. of Yorkshire. Received 8th March, 1796.

Mr. S. appears to have taken great pains to collect information, during his visit to the United States, on the points proposed to him by the Board as matters of inquiry; and his paper is replete with information, but not particularly interesting to English farmers. He was desired, in the first place, to learn *What was the Price of Land?* On this head, he informs us

that; 'In America the price of land is chiefly affected, not by variety of soil, but by the vicinity of easy conveyance of the produce:—that, in Europe, rent must ever be connected with price; but in America, rent is never thought of, for land is very rarely let.' In New England, the average price of land is 4*l.* per acre. In New York, (old settled country) 3*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* per acre; and the little land that is let yields an interest of not more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The following remarks are offered by Mr. Strickland, respecting the objections generally prevalent in America, against renting land or becoming tenants:

'Very little land is let, few of the people born in the country being ever willing to become tenants, and farmers from England, who alone would be tenants of any value, are very few in number, and those, as far as I can find, in general not of a very respectable description. Custom or ignorance can alone cause this objection; since they who purchase land, purchase it with money that would otherwise afford them seven or eight per cent. at the least; whereas if they rented land, it would be at a rate that would not pay more to the owners of it, than an interest of three or four per cent.; a great gain this to the tenant, who would besides have many indulgences. So great is the difficulty of procuring regular tenants, that people here, who possess more land than they choose to occupy, or can cultivate themselves, are getting much into the way of letting it upon shares; a system which nothing but extreme poverty, or extreme ignorance, can vindicate.

'This evil is rapidly increasing; an instance of this tenure I have before noticed at Boston. I have not yet heard of any in New York; but in Jersey and Pennsylvania instances are too frequent; to the south of these states I have met with none.

'A country thus occupied must ever be in the worst cultivation, and both owner and occupier in a state of poverty. The terms of this tenure are various, according as agreements can be made; in some instances, the owner finds half the seed, and half the live stock, the tenant every thing else; and he has half the produce; in other instances, the owners find half the live stock, and have one-third of the produce, &c.

'Want of capital in tenants, the difficulty of procuring them, and their ignorance when procured, was the cause assigned for this wretched mode of occupation; but it was observed, that under this tenure, the owner could command the mode of cultivation; and that therefore, such lands were better cultivated than others: this, however, presumes the landlord to be more intelligent than his tenant. The extent of the evils arising from this mode of occupancy, many parts of Europe sufficiently show: wherever it is found, poverty. and the worst of cultivation attend it, as ever must be the case, where the interest of the owner and the occupier are at eternal variance; here, the owner purchases the worst of stock, because it is the cheapest, and another is to have the management of it; and the occupier

occupier bestows the least labour, because another is to have half the profit of it. It was scarcely to have been expected, that such a system should have crossed the Atlantic.'

In Delaware and Maryland, the price per acre is 4*l.* 17*s.* and no where is it higher. From a general view of the subject, Mr. S. infers that '*land in America affords little pleasure or profit, and appears in a progress of continually affording less.*'

What is the Price of Labour? was the next question. In answer, we are informed that, at New York, a common labourer, as one who carries the hod, has 4*s.* 6*d.* per day, carpenters, 5*s.* 7½*d.*, masons and bricklayers 6*s.* 9*d.* and 7*s.* 3¾*d.* Other mechanics, about 5*s.* 3*d.* In Virginia, observes Mr. S., 'every thing is performed by the labour of slaves, except on the west of the blue-ridge, where they are not numerous; there the labour of the white people may be procured, during almost any part of the year, at about 2*s.* and their victuals; where slaves are doomed to toil, the freeman holds labour to be a degradation. Virginia is in a rapid decline, brought on by her adherence to so pernicious a regimen.'

From the author's recapitulation of the price of agricultural labour in the different States, he deduces the general 'average to be 1*s.* 7¾*d.* in summer and 1*s.* 5¼*d.* in winter.' Formerly, he says, all circumstances considered, wages were nearly alike on both sides of the Atlantic; and the price of labour having risen in Europe of late years, he is of opinion that they are again nearly on an equality.

The next question was; *To what Circumstance is it owing, that Eight Bushels of Wheat, raised by dear Labour, are a profitable Crop in the central States? The Fact is curious.* It is observed in reply that agricultural labour, as is shewn above, is not dear, at least not so as to affect the price of the product. Mr. S. thus recapitulates the produce of the several states:

'RECAPITULATION.

	Average produce of wheat.	Maize.	Buckwheat.
	Bushels.		
In the state of New York -	12 per acre	25	15
Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland - -	8 ditto		15
Virginia (east of the Blue ridge,	7	15	25 oats
Ditto (west of ditto) - -	12	20	25

He accounts for the smallness of the average product by circumstances which are not much to the credit and honour of the United States, whose constitution is severely reprobated.

As the present state of our country makes a large importation of corn necessary, and as much will probably be brought to us from America, the following particulars respecting the mode of separating the grain from the straw in Virginia may not be uninteresting:

'The use of the flail is scarce known here; almost all the wheat is trodden out in the field by horses upon the bare sandy soil, with which much of it gets incorporated, and afterwards is separated from it by sieves, or some other means that answer the purpose; the consequence of this is, that a considerable quantity of dust adheres to the surface of the grain, and insinuates itself into the groove on one side of it, so that no art can entirely clear it away; and thence I am told millers are unable to make superfine flour from Virginian wheat; and on that account, that it bears a price, inferior to what the quality would otherwise demand. A weevil, or some other insect, greatly infests the wheat of this state when in the straw, which makes it necessary to tread it out as soon as possible after harvest; and this is frequently attended with inconvenience and loss. In unloading the wheat of this state from shipboard, or otherwise working among it in the granaries, the people employed are frequently so affected with a *prickling* or *nettling* on the skin, as to be unable to go on with their work, but without being able to account for the cause of it. I recollect a similar circumstance happening, in unloading a vessel laden with Virginian wheat, some years since at Liverpool, when it was said to be caused by a minute insect. Oats are not extensively cultivated in any part of America, and are every where bad; but those of this state, of the worst possible quality; they have certainly kernel sufficient to enable them to vegetate, but are, notwithstanding, light as chaff. The cultivated oat appears again returning to the original grass. I never saw any oats that would be marketable in England, except some in the German tract in Pennsylvania, and they would admit of comparison with such only as we should esteem very moderate.'

To the question concerning cultivation, the following was added:

"*The husbandry of every country depending mostly on the market for cattle and sheep, and wool; how far is the bad culture of America owing to a want of them? Is there a demand for beef, mutton, and wool, in any quantities for exportation, or otherwise? And how far does the existence of these circumstances, in the vicinity of large towns, remedy such bad cultivation?*"

In answer, this list of prices is given:

'1794, September. New York city. Beef, $3\frac{1}{4}\frac{8}{16}d.$ to $3\frac{3}{4}\frac{12}{16}d.$; mutton, $3\frac{3}{4}\frac{12}{16}d.$; veal, $5\frac{4}{16}d.$ to $5\frac{1}{2}\frac{8}{16}d.$; lamb, per quarter 2*s.*; pork, $5\frac{4}{16}d.$; pigs, live weight, $2\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb.; butter, 1*s* $1\frac{1}{2}d.$: new milk, $3\frac{1}{4}\frac{8}{16}d.$ per quart; chickens, 10*d.* to 1*s.*; hay, 2*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* per ton; wheat, 5*s.* $7\frac{1}{2}d.$; barley, 3*s.* $11\frac{1}{4}d.$; maize, 2*s.* $9^{3}d.$; rye, 3*s.* $1\frac{1}{2}d.$; oats, 1*s.* $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ per bushel.

'New York state. Beef, $3\frac{6}{16}d.$; mutton, $2\frac{3}{4}\frac{4}{16}d.$; butter, 9*d.*; wheat, 5*s.* $4\frac{8}{16}d.$; pair of good oxen, five or six years old, from 13*l.* 10*s.*

13*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; three years old, 6*l.* 15*s.* per pair. Fat sheep which may weigh 14lb. per quarter, 6*s.* 9*d.* each; wool of good staple 4lb. per fleece, 1*s.* 5½*d.* per lb.'

A farther detail of prices is given, to which the following remarks are subjoined:

'From the above detail of prices, it will not only be evident, that the demand for exportation must be greater than the supply; but that the consumption of the great towns, affords a price more than sufficient for all the articles that are carried to them. A very large proportion of the supply, both for exportation, and the consumption of the large towns, is brought from very great distances; cattle from the Chenessee country on lake Ontario, and from Kentucky, into the neighbourhood of Philadelphia; the former not less than six hundred miles, the latter about seven or eight hundred. The chief part of the flour comes in barrels, from the heads of the rivers that fall into the Atlantic; and some by land carriage, from the neighbourhood of Fort Pitt to Philadelphia, a distance of three hundred miles. That a supply in itself moderate, when compared with the vast extent of country, should be collected from such great distances, is sufficient proof that the large towns have no beneficial effect on, or power to remedy, the bad cultivation of the country, even in their own vicinity.'

The remaining questions respected the *spontaneous Growth of White Clover in America; Timothy Grass*; *the Supply of Great Britain with Hemp and Oil Cakes from America; the Extent of the Practice of Irrigation in the States;* and *the Influence of Indigence among the Poor, in promoting Emigration beyond the Mountains.* From Mr. Strickland's replies, it appears that oil-cakes, but not hemp, may be procured from America; that irrigation is little practised; and that, as to indigent poor, there are none in the United States: for he observes:

'In a country, where in every part the demand for labour greatly exceeds the supply, where wages are high, and provisions not in proportion to them, no one can want, that will labour; and the able, who refuse to work, will there meet with no support. In the country, I never heard of poor; in the great towns, there is a reception for such as want it: in which are a few people, chiefly negroes and foreigners, whom the accidents to which the lower classes are liable in a town, or the diseases of a new climate, compel here to seek a refuge. These poorhouses are either maintained by a tax on the inhabitants, or more generally by the corporation of the town, or by the state.

'None emigrate to the frontiers beyond the mountains, except culprits, or savage back-wood's men, chiefly of Irish descent. This line of frontier-men, a race possessing all the vices of civilized and savage life, without the virtues of either; affording the singular spectacle of a race, seeking, and voluntarily sinking into barbarism, out of the state of civilized life; the outcasts of the world, and the disgrace of it;

are to be met with on the western frontiers, from Pennsylvania, inclusive, to the farthest south.'

Perhaps, a subject of the United States may not be pleased with the general complexion of these observations: but they shew at least the impression which a survey of America would have on an Englishman; and they are calculated to repress that ardour for emigration across the Atlantic, which some Europeans may be supposed to cherish. The learned in America will probably take some notice of the paper. We have given numerous extracts from it, being desirous not only of exhibiting its substance, but of doing this, as far as we were able, in the words of its sensible author.

Account of some interesting Experiments on the various Modes of raising Turnips. By Mr. W. Jobson.

It is here *conjectured* that a heavier crop *may* be raised by sowing in drills, at 27 inches distance, with dung immediately beneath the plants, than in broad-cast: but farther experiments than those here recorded are necessary to ascertain the fact. Mr. Jobson allows that there are some advantages in sowing turnips broad-cast.

Account of Herefordshire Breeds of Sheep, Cattle, Horses, and Hogs. By T. A. Knight, Esq. of Elton near Ludlow.

Much useful information is here given relative to the Herefordshire stock and mode of husbandry; with hints on grazing, and some remarks on the size of animals, in opposition to certain statements of Mr. Culley. Mr. K. appears to be an accurate observer, and writes to instruct: but he is perhaps too partial to large stock.

Experiments on fatting Sheep; fed with Oil Cakes and Beans mixed together.

Mr. Green, the communicator, assures the Board that the sheep fatted in this way paid him wonderfully well.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Campbell, at Fort Marlborough, with an Account of Seeds sent by him, by the Queen Indiaman.

This paper is more calculated for a botanical than an agricultural society; and we do not perceive of what use it can be to farmers, nor how it can advance the internal improvement of our northern isle. In fact, its object is to promote the transfer of the useful trees and plants of Sumatra to our West Indian colonies, and to the continent of America. The seeds sent home by the Queen were those of the cordage palm, the caminium, the copaya, or oil-nut of the Malays, the teak, the soy bean of Japan, and the catupa, a delicate fruit lately discovered. It will be for Government to consider how far the importation of teak timber from the East will answer for the navy. The intelligent writer of this paper asserts that 'a teak

ship

ship will run three, four, or five times as long as an oak one, without material repair.'

Account of Experiments in cultivating Rice, brought by Sir John Murray from India. By the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. and P.R.S.

It is necessary for us only to report the result of these experiments: viz. that the dry or mountain rice will not produce grain in this climate. Sir Joseph, however, thinks that, as the quantity of the blade was uncommonly great, 'it is not impossible that it might be advantageous to sow it as food for cattle; for a very large proportion of stock might certainly be maintained upon an acre of it.'

An Inquiry into the Cause of Blight in Wheat, which occasioned the Failure of the Crop in the Summer of 1795; *with Observations, and a Mode of preventing a Repetition of the same Evil. Also an Account of the Origin and Increase of Smut Balls, Vermin, &c.* By Robert Somerville, Esq. Surgeon 1st Battalion 8th Fencible Regiment.

We cannot refrain from observing that this paper is very prolix. As Mr. Somerville was writing for farmers, who compose not the most reading class of men, he should have been more aware of the probability of tiring their patience. He tells us that by the help of a microscope, he has discovered that the cause of smut in wheat is an insect resembling the wood-louse, though infinitely smaller:—but how is this insect to be destroyed? By having recourse to the old method of brining or pickling;—so that the farmer, after having read a long paper, is left to pursue his accustomed habits, and to resist his old enemy by old measures. A new infusion, however, not hurtful to vegetation, is recommended, instead of the common lixivium; composed of *Barbadoes aloes, tobacco, and helebore powder:* but the author endeavours to render a more essential service to agriculture, by a recipe for destroying the smut producing vermin on the growing crop; viz. to dip a large woollen cloth in the preparation of *aloes*, &c. above mentioned, to weight it properly, and to drag it backwards and forwards, up and down the ridges of the wheat-field. This operation must be performed in dry weather.

Experiment to ascertain the Efficacy of Mr. Davis's new Method of cleaning smutty Wheat. Extracted from the Minutes of the Board.

The Board resolved, on this experiment, that Mr. Davis's discovery was highly useful and important.

Observations on Embankments, explaining the Nature and Construction of those calculated for reclaiming Lands from the Sea, from Rivers, and from Lakes, or for preventing Encroachments, and

and guarding against Inundations; with Remarks on some Embankments already executed. By Robert Beatson, of Kilrie, Esq. late of His Majesty's Corps of Royal Engineers.

This paper is divided into four sections. The first treats of embanking in general, in which the advantages and improvements to be obtained by it are suggested. The second refers to embanking against the sea. This requires the strongest and most expensive works, and Mr. B. recommends the bank or mound to be made two feet higher than the highest spring tide is known to flow. The mode of constructing the dyke or bank is also detailed. In the third section, which treats of embanking against rivers, the methods of preventing encroachments on adjacent lands are described; with the means of protecting those lands, and the adjoining level country, from being overflowed when the water rises above its ordinary level. The last section points out the mode of constructing embankments against lakes, of which the waters rise in winter and subside in summer; as is the case with loughs in Ireland and Scotland, and with the meres in the North of England. Persons who are interested in embankments may employ their time to advantage in consulting this memoir.

Essay on the various Modes of bringing Land into a State fit for Cultivation, and improving its natural Productions. By James Headrick.

Seventy-four pages are occupied by this communication; which would have made a very respectable pamphlet, if printed separately, and the subject of which required the most extensive distribution. Our agricultural readers will lament that it did not constitute a distinct publication, when they are informed that its object is

'To point out the physical obstacles which impede the cultivation of land, the means of removing these obstacles, and the various methods by which the land may be brought from a state of waste into a state of fertility and production.

'In the progress of this paper, soils of every kind will of course be considered, the mode of improvement that is adapted to their climature, local situation, and the objects to which the land is to be applied. A few experiments, with a view to detect the cause of sterility, and consequently the means of giving fertility to soils, will be enumerated, and the most successful methods of bringing peat-bogs into a state of cultivation, will be pointed out.'

We have not space to render justice to this ingenious paper by analyzing it.—On the subject of the improvement of mosses, it concludes with observing that 'it surely must rejoice the heart of every good man to be informed, that mosses, which seem to be intended as scabs and blisters upon the fair face of nature, are actually converted into her fairest and most fertile spots.'

Observations

Observations on the Causes, and Prevention, of Curl in Potatoes. By a Farmer.

Various papers have been written and transmitted to agricultural societies on this subject. The notion that this disease propagates itself by contagion is here combated; and it is observed that whatever renders a crop poor and weakly is most apt to produce it; so that in a great measure, or perhaps entirely, the curl proceeds from this cause. 1, Ground altogether unfit for potatoes. 2. Imperfect culture. 3. Small roots, or too small a proportion of strong roots. 4. Sets taken from roots that have sprouted early, and from which the germs have been rubbed off. 5. Too much or too little dung. 6. Too deep as well as too shallow planting. 7. Whatever injures the new plants or sets. 8. Ground too stiff, or which after planting has been pressed down too hard on the sets. 9. The state of the weather while the crop is young;—are enumerated as causes of *curl*. Hence, if it be not a disease, but only an accidental debility, it is to be prevented by a complete attention to all those circumstances which, we are taught by experience, are essential to the good culture of this useful plant.

On Irrigation, or watering Land. By Joseph Fenna, of Baddley, near Namptwich.

As an inspection of the accompanying plates is necessary to thoroughly understand this paper, we cannot offer a satisfactory analysis of it to our readers.

Experiments with Salt. By Mr. Joseph Fenna.

It is inferred from these experiments that salt *may* be of service in the preparation of fallows, in rainy seasons unfavourable to the plough: but then great quantities must be used. As an assistant or stimulus to vegetation, it appears to be destitute of every good property; and to be unworthy of notice as a manure in any kind of process.

Effect of the Equisetum Palustre upon Drains. By the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. &c.

This plant, by its singular mode of under-ground vegetation, tends to choak up covered drains; as was experienced in some that were made under the direction of Mr. Farey for the Duke of Bedford. Sir Joseph mentions the evil in order that it may be prevented, which can be effectually done by the simple expedient of casting the *under* into *open* drains.

Observations on the Effect which Carriage Wheels, with Rims of different Shapes, have on the Roads; respectfully submitted to the Approbation of the Board of Agriculture, and to the consideration of the Legislature. By Alexander Cumming, Esq. F. R. S. Edinburgh.

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Most warmly do we applaud the Board for inviting discussion on a subject of such national importance as that on which this paper treats. Country gentlemen, and especially the trustees of turnpike-roads, require to be instructed in the scientific principles of wheels, and of road-making; for, if they were properly enlightened in these respects, they could not endure the frequent nuisances which are observable on our high-ways, nor allow the roads to be unnecessarily pulverized and destroyed by wheels that seem to be constructed on purpose to demolish the hardest materials. Our road-waggons, which carry the greatest weight of any land vehicles, have indeed *broad* wheels, but they are not *flat*. Their fellies (or felloes) resemble a section of the central part of a double cone, by having a projecting streak in the middle, which completely frustrates the design of the legislature in allowing broad wheels to pass on paying a less toll. They have the appearance of broad wheels, but they in effect are narrow; and they should be prohibited as speedily as possible. A consideration of the principles established by Mr. Cumming, in this ingenious and philosophical paper, must tend to this effect, and to the correction of other errors observable in our wheel carriages. Mr. C. shews that wheels, of which the outward rims are sections of a cone, more obstruct the draught and are more injurious to the roads, than those of which the rims are cylindrical. It is observed in favour of *cylindrical rims*, that they advance in a straight line; that they have no friction nor rubbing at the circumference; do not increase friction on the axis; have no pressure against the linch pin; have no tendency to displace, break the texture, or retard the concretion and induration of the parts on which they roll; and that, advancing *in a straight course* with the least possible resistance, they serve to improve the roads, to relieve the cattle, and to preserve the tires of the wheels. On the contrary; *conical rims* require a constant force to confine them to a straight line, which force creates a rubbing and friction on the rim; they increase the friction on the axis; in dry weather, they pulverize the best materials; in a compressible state of the roads, they derange and break the texture of the parts; they increase the labour of the cattle, and promote the wearing of the tires.

It evidently follows, therefore, that certain advantages are to be obtained by the substitution of the former for the latter. Mr. Cumming calculates these advantages, and is surprised that the bent axis and conical rims should be continued, especially on turnpike-roads.

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In the Appendix to this valuable paper, the author contends for roads that are level in the middle, of a sufficient space for all carriages, and properly abutted so as to prevent the lateral extension of the materials. On this point, we are not exactly prepared to coincide with him: but we entirely join with him in urging the necessity of legislative authority to prevent the use of any other broad wheels than such as are truly cylindrical, with a smooth flat rim, and the heads of the nails level with the tire.

To this paper is subjoined a *Short Account of Experiments on Broad-wheeled Carriages, exhibited before the Board of Agriculture, on the 18th day of March, and on the 30th of May, 1799,* by the Same.

These experiments seemed to impress conviction in favour of the cylindrical rims.—We presume that the rapid glance, which we have taken at this communication, will induce all our philosophical country-readers to study the whole of it.

Description of Lord Somerville's Drag Cart, &c. and the Method of adjusting the centre of gravity of the Load.

This invention of the late president is mentioned by Mr. C., in the foregoing paper, as a very important discovery: but we are precluded from giving a description of it by our inability to copy the plates.—The same also may be said of the following articles, giving an account of his Lordship's *Two furrow Swing and Wheel Ploughs, at nine Inches and a quarter Furrow in the clear;*—and of Mr. *Ducket's Hand-Hoe.*

Letter from John Talbot Dillon, Esq. M. R. I. A. Under Secretary to the Board, to Lord Somerville, respecting the Fleeces of the Spanish Marino Sheep.

The object of this letter is merely to correct an error respecting the weight of the fleece of *Marino* sheep, in the author's *Travels through Spain,* &c. published in London in 1780.

Letter from Sir John Call, Bart. M. P. on the Smut in Wheat, Blights, and the manner in which plants are nourished.

Sir John is of opinion, that smut is occasioned by certain animalcula deposited in the husks which cover each grain, about the time when the wheat is in bloom:—but, as animalcula attack not vigorous but diseased plants, should he not have gone one step farther, and have considered the origin of this evil as some injury which certain plants receive from cold nights, or other causes, while the wheat is in bloom, when it is known to be in the tenderest state, and by which the circulation of the juices is obstructed? It is worthy of remark, in corroboration of this notion, that smut prevails more in one year than in another, when no precaution is taken.

A Ledger

A Ledger Account of the Farm of Mr. William Dann of Gillingham, Kent, for 1797, *with Remarks.*

Inserted as a Specimen of Farm Book-keeping.

On Clay and Marle. By Mr. Josiah Rodwell, of Livermere, near Bury, Suffolk.

Mr. Rodwell received the gold medal for this communication; which informs us that, by a plentiful application of clay and marle on poor dry heath land, he so greatly improved an estate as to raise its rental from 150l. to 700l. a year.

On Provincial Farming Societies.

This essay recommends the institution of small agricultural Societies; and some, we are told, are already formed on the plan here suggested.

On the Improvement of British Wool.

This paper contains a selection of letters from a numerous correspondence, to the contents of which we cannot minutely attend. It concludes with remarks by the late president, whose opinion on this subject we shall hereafter have occasion to notice, in our account of a separate publication.

On Iron Rail-ways. By John Wilkes, Esq. of Measham.

The utility of an iron road or track for the wheels of carriages, made on a *perfectly inclined plane*, may be easily conceived; and where such road or rail-ways are practicable, we should suppose that they would be soon adopted.

The xxxth and last paper contains *An Abstract of Baptisms and Burials, in Four Parishes of Fifty Counties in England;* collected by Sir John Call, Bart. and communicated to the Board of Agriculture, with an Address, dated 21st Feb. 1800.

The result from these abstracts is that our population has increased and is increasing.

As the Board of Agriculture occupies a most dignified and commanding situation, it may be supposed to invite communications superior to those which are offered to any other Institution of a similar kind. It will not, perhaps, be able to gratify exorbitant expectation: but many of the papers here offered to the public are highly interesting and important; and the whole contribute to form a volume which all impartial critics will deem an augmentation of the credit and the merits of the Society.

Mo-y.

ART. XII. *Sermons of the late Rev. John Touch*, A. M. Minister of Aberlour and Mortlach, Banffshire; revised by his Son, the Rev. P. Touch, late Chaplain in his Majesty's Navy. In three Volumes. Vol. I. including, in the Preface, Memoirs of the Author. 8vo. pp. 390. 7s. bound. Scott. 1800.

ONE only of the three volumes above announced is here delivered to the public: but the two others are to follow, 'as soon as health enables the editor to resume his studies.' Whatever allowance it may be requisite to make for filial partialities, it must be acknowleged that the account which is here given of the deceased writer of these sermons is amusing and instructive. In the earliest period of his public ministry, he was appointed, by the General Assembly of the church of Scotland, preacher in a populous but detached district, (Pluscardine,) in the county of Moray; and it is rather surprizing to be told of the extreme ignorance which, so few years back, prevailed among the inhabitants of this *Scottish* territory; even so far, that 'they were totally unacquainted with the Bible, and strangers to every doctrine of natural as well as revealed religion.' Happily, however, 'they were docile, obliging, and mild;' and by prudence, resolution, and diligence, Mr. Touch effected a great alteration, and appears to have dwelt among them with harmony and utility, till both he and they reluctantly yielded to a mandate which nominated him to a parish in Banffshire. Here he continued his activity, and was particularly successful, in this and another district, in checking the progress of popery. During these labours, an unsolicited presentation was sent to him for the living of Aberlour, where he resided in amity and high esteem, during almost thirty years. Here the editor observes:

'I have seen a good deal of the world, but I can declare with truth, that I have never yet found, in any country parish, either abroad or in Britain, so much religion on *reasoned* principles, and without *cant*, such a perfect knowledge of every duty men owe to God, to society, and to themselves, such a distinct and universal acquaintance with the history of Christianity, and of all religions and nations, as I found among the well taught and enlightened country people of that congregation.'

A royal presentation, however, removed the author to Mortlach, an adjoining parish: in which new situation, though advancing in life, he continued his vigilance, and witnessed the good effects of his labour; till, debilitated by a stroke of the palsy, he died in October, 1780, in the 80th year of his age.—The preface concludes with a character of the author in different relations and circumstances of life;—an account which

places him in high esteem while living, and intitles him to honourable remembrance now that he is departed.

The eight sermons which follow seem to indicate the tongue and the pen of a ready speaker and writer. The manuscripts in general, we are told, were left in a very unfinished state, and plainly shewed that there was no intention that any of them should be published to the world: but the editor, in the hope that they might be acceptable, 'and for several private reasons,' determined to send a few of them to the press. The first represents, with energy of diction and of sentiment, the ministerial duty and character; the three following treat of public worship; these are succeeded by two on the excellence of the *Righteous*, and one on the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit; on each of which subjects we find sensible, practical, and animated reflections. The last sermon bears rather a singular title; 'Christ did not die for all men;'—a proposition, surely, not very enlivening nor comforting: but this intelligent and spirited preacher was probably a systematical divine, and that system, which he had embraced, no doubt appeared to him the language of reason and scripture.—We, however, regard the volume as not properly the subject of much critical remark; and we refrain from farther reflections, when we find that, according to a hint mentioned above, the publication has a charitable design: being intended to assist some descendants of the author, who, in the decline of life, have been deprived of their property.—May the event prove favourable to their wishes!

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ART. XIII. *The Pronunciation of the English Language vindicated from imputed Anomaly and Caprice;* in Two Parts, with an Appendix. By the Rev. James Adams, S.R.E.S. 8vo. pp. 164. Printed at Edinburgh; London, sold by Booker.

IT seems by no means necessary that, because the inhabitants of Great Britain and France are unhappily at war, they should therefore each be hostile to the other's language. Both tongues, no doubt, in one respect or another, have their advantages, although the French appears to have a nominal superiority; by the universal currency which it has obtained in Europe. The author of the present work, however, is offended (not to say exasperated) at its pretensions.

'Let French (says he) have its due and limited merit: let it serve as a humble handmaid to our language, and general pursuit of literature; but Heavens forbid its becoming our mistress, and object of main attention! Long has it aimed at universal monarchy in Europe, by diminishing the sway of Latin, and still endeavours to cast a general blur on English, German, &c. The last summer, a

well known teacher in London published *a plan of universal language grafted on the French.* It merits the scorn of every Briton: grafted on such a stock, this tree of literature will thrive no better in Britain than the accursed tree of liberty.'

The first part of this work is styled, 'an analytical process respecting elementary combinations and variations, chiefly confined to monosyllables:' the second is 'an investigation of prosody in all the multiplied forms of words, syllables, Greek and Latin analogy, &c.'—These subjects Mr. Adams endeavours to explain and illustrate by a variety of remarks, which may engage the attention of the reader, according to the rules and principles advanced; and *attention* must be given, or these winged words and letters will almost insensibly elude his grasp.

Mr. Adams expresses his dislike of the 'term, or rather the abuse of the word, *exception*, which (says he) in English grammars, especially such as are written by the French, *are* carried to an absurd excess. Here the teacher stops, and thinks his solution satisfactory and full; when interrogated on the cause of *exception*, he submissively answers he cannot tell; and being urged, ignorantly asserts, that it is an *indefinable mode, or capricious use of English pronunciation.*'—It is impracticable for us, however, to enter into an examination of this writer's theory, or indeed to recite the leading principles on which he founds the analysis and solution of many changes and difficulties, held forth as indefinable and capricious.—We respect a kind of patriotic zeal which he displays on the subject; and we concur in the censure of those grammars, compiled particularly by the French, which are, he says, 'replete with erroneous principles, false English, limited and defective rules; and discover inattention to, or ignorance of, that direction of *reason*, in English pronunciation, which frequently pays more regard to the *import and origin* of words, than to simple elementary powers.'

As languages were not originally formed by reason and rule, it is wonderful that they have been so well preserved and reduced to their direction; and it is no doubt as true of the English tongue as of others, 'that the presiding genius of the language is not actuated by mere anomalous caprice:' but some persons will ask, where is the residence of this presiding genius? others will reply, the court and its environs; to which others again will no doubt add that courtly conversation, however it may have been deemed fashionable and polite, has been often and greatly defective in correctness and purity.—Different languages require a difference of construction; yet, according to the regulations which grammarians prescribe, in all there are, and must be anomalies or exceptions; to reduce the num-

ber of which, and to liberate the English tongue from the *general* charge of being discordant and lawless, form the design of this author, which he prosecutes with assiduity and fervor. For a more particular view of his method and success, we are obliged to refer the reader to the work itself: but we must not omit to observe that this performance is 'an extract of a former attempt presented in Latin and French three years past, now reduced to a more regular plan, divested of foreign matter, and the display of satirical fancy, to which repeated challenges, and formal defiance of answering common objections,—gave birth.' His British spleen, however, he acknowleges, is now moderated:—'If now and then (says he) I dropt some remains of former satire, and sinister comparison against *the fashionable, easy, polished, nervous, most regular and unvarying Gallic tongue*, it is not to depreciate its real merit, but to bear down the unjust reproach, (chiefly made by our rivals the French,) of imputed anomaly and caprice.'

We could dispute some of this writer's remarks, but we have neither inclination nor leisure to notice more than a few;—as for instance, the word *syrop* or *syrup*, which, he says, 'is a Greek word, per *u* Greek (upsilon) su-ro-pion, not per *y* Greek, as the French name it;' deriving it, we suppose, from Συρω, *trabo*, and Οπος, *succus*: but we should rather incline, with Dr. Johnson and others, to regard the term as of Arabic extraction, and to spell it *s*irup or sirop. In another place, when selecting some monosyllables to which objection might be made, he remarks that they are drawn from other languages, and he proceeds to amuse himself and his reader with the word '*Gig*, a modern vehicle; the inventor (he adds) may answer for the name, perhaps the contrast of *jig*, (*dance*) made him prefer the radical part of *gigle* (to laugh), which is German.'

The Appendix forms a dissertation 'on the dialects of all nations, and a vindication of that of Scotland.' It is peculiar, lively, and we may add, sensible; and it shews, as well as the former part, that the author is not unacquainted with learned subjects: but it will doubtless be deemed, at least in some instances, fanciful. The latter characteristic may perhaps appear from the following, as he terms it, 'singular conclusion, founded on fact, that will carry with it surprize and conviction;' viz.

'Those languages we now most notice, and admire as most reduced to art and best suited to the ear, are, perhaps, the most corrupt and disguised, I mean the Greek and Latin, and such among the modern tongues as are nearest formed on their model: that those, which we most overlook and despise within our insular bosom, are

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less corrupt, and approach nearest to the original language of man; for that language must be deemed most affinitive to originality, into which all other languages may be radically resolved, and consequently, with some allowance of change, was the very speech of Adam and Eve in Paradise. The question has been often asked, what that language was? A learned Etymologist, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, wrote a folio, to prove that it was pure Welch. Not only the assertion, but the very problem, is still received with laughter, to which I expose myself by not letting loose those muscles which exhibit the impression of ignorance joined with surprize, for that is the source of this weakest passion of man, laughter, which is no confutation of error. A philosophic pause will create doubt, and doubt may produce a problem, and problem be supported with specious reasons, tending to point out a hidden truth, that the learned Welshman soared above the reach of vulgar prejudice and ignorance.'

We shall not contest the point, whether Welsh was the first language of man; nor whether, bearing, as Mr. A. says, much radical resemblance to Hebrew, it be not the second least corruption of primitive language.—This *honour of originality*, ascribed to the Welsh, the author is willing they should divide with the Gaelic of the Highlands, and old Irish.

Mr. Adams declares that he had not read Mr. Sheridan's Dictionary till after he had finished this work: which he mentions to ward off the charge of *pillaging* from that performance, which some persons might be inclined to advance.

☞ The price of this work, omitted in the title-page, is 3s. 6d.

Hi.

ART. XIV. *History of Great Britain*, from the Revolution to the Accession of the House of Hanover. By W. Belsham. 8vo. 2 Vols. 12s. Boards. Robinsons. 1798. *

SEVERAL years have elapsed since the author of these volumes became known to the public as an historian, and we have had more than one opportunity of doing justice to his merits in that character. In the year 1793, he published *Memoirs of the Kings of Great Britain of the House of Brunswic-Lunenburg*, and terminated his narrative at the death of George the Second †: intimating his intention of resuming his labours at some future period. This promise was fulfilled in 1795, when Mr. B. presented to the world his *Memoirs of the Reign of his present Majesty*, to the Session of Parliament ending in 1793‡; and he executed this arduous and delicate task with considerable spirit and ability. By a retrograde motion, he now offers

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* We regret that, by some accidental circumstance, these volumes have remained thus long overlooked.

† See M. R. *n. s.* vol. xiii. p. 143. ‡ *Ib.* vol. xvii. p. 121.

to us a view of our history from the Revolution to the accession of the House of Hanover, the point at which he began his historical career.

Of this very important period, various accounts have appeared; and of late our attention has been directed to the works of Somerville, Coote, and Lord Bolingbroke, (we allude to that Nobleman's Letters lately published,) in which the events of the reigns of King William and Queen Anne are discussed in an accurate and satisfactory manner. This circumstance will account for our not dwelling so long on the subject of this article, as the work itself and the period which it illustrates would otherwise have tempted us to have done; and we shall content ourselves with making a few extracts, to enable our readers to form a competent opinion of the contents of these volumes, and of the manner in which they are executed.

'In relation to the present volumes,' Mr. B. observes in his preface, 'it must suffice to say that the author has deviated little, if at all, from his original plan. Where he has varied from the earlier histories, he has not merely referred to but quoted his authorities; which are chiefly Sir John Dalrymple and Mr. Macpherson; to whom the public owe great obligation for their interesting and important communications. Ralph is a vast storehouse of historic information; and his minute and laudable accuracy, as an annalist, makes ample compensation for his literary defects, his captious comments, and perverse paradoxes. Bishop Burnet is, for the most part, highly entertaining, notwithstanding his vanity, his negligence, his credulity, and his prejudices. Placed in the midst of the scenes which he delineates with a rough, not a feeble, pencil, he has evidently no reserves or disguise; and though his authority is very slender, unsupported by any concurrent testimony, yet is his history such as every succeeding writer with caution may greatly avail himself of. Tindal, an obsequious Whig devoted to the politics of the Court, contains very valuable materials, although thrown together in a sort of chaotic mass at once unanimated and unenlightened. Smollet had unquestionably talents, but his genius was entirely turned to the low and the ludicrous. Of the dignity and beauty of historic composition he had no conception; and much less could he boast of possessing any portion of its all-pervading and philosophic spirit. His work is a dull and often malignant compilation, equally destitute of instruction or of amusement. The Parliamentary Debates and Journals supplied an inexhaustible fund of matter; and the State-papers of Cole, Hardwick, Lamberti, &c. have been consulted with much advantage. A multitude of inferior, but by no means unimportant, publications have also been perused with no little care and assiduity; such as the Memoirs of the Duke of Berwick, of the Marquis de Feuquieres, M. de Torcy, M. de Villars, M. Mesnager, Lediard's Life of the Duke of Marlborough, Duchess of Marlborough's Narrative, Colonel Hook's Negotiations in Scotland, Lord Balcarras's Letter to King James,

James, &c. &c. and numerous quotations made from them, as will appear in the course of the work. If after this the present History be still censured as "deficient in authorities," the author will silently and patiently await the public award; not being apprehensive that any of the facts recorded in it are likely even to be questioned, and much less liable to be refuted.'

As introductory to his proposed history, Mr. B. gives a short view of the Transactions of the Reigns of Charles II. and James; and in his account of the dishonourable conduct of the former sovereign in selling his neutrality to France for a pension, he makes some remarks on the part which Russel and Sydney acted at that period; endeavouring to justify the intrigues carried on between the French Ambassador and the Members of Opposition, and the great sums of French gold which were distributed, 'with the approbation of even such men as Russel, Sydney, and Hollis, in order to accomplish a great political purpose, which unhappily was not to be effected by more open and honorable means.' Mr. B. argues on the principle that 'virtue is itself founded on utility, and *that the* END *is not to be ultimately sacrificed to the* MEANS.' Here we cannot altogether coincide with the author. This may be, and no doubt often is, the maxim of the *Politician*, but we do not see that it can accord with the judgment of the *Moralist*. In the instance in question, the application of this principle might be conducive to good: but, when it is put into action, it may as frequently lead to evil; and it certainly comprehends within itself a licence of the most dangerous latitude. No *stern morality* can exist with it, and almost any atrocity may be palliated by it. Mr. B. is indeed aware of the abuses to which it is liable, but contends that nevertheless it is in its own nature incontrovertible. This, then, is to consign the administration of the most potent and delicate medicine to the hands of the ignorant and unprincipled quack.

Having detailed the circumstances of misconduct which marked the reign of the weak, sanguinary, and infatuated James; and which, united with the prudence, patriotism, and valour observable in the Prince of Orange, conferred on him that crown which the estates of the kingdom declared to be vacated; the present writer concludes this period of his history with the following reflection:

'Such was the expedition and such the facility with which a revolution was accomplished, which in its consequences must be acknowledged one of the most interesting and important in the annals of History. From this period, a government was established, which had for its basis—what no other government had ever before expressly assumed—the natural and unalienable rights of mankind. From this period, the grand question, whether government ought to be exercised

for the advantage of the governors or the governed, was finally decided. Government was by the highest authority allowed, and even virtually asserted, to be *a trust.* And the inference could not with any degree of plausibility be disputed, that the men in whom this trust is vested, by whatever names or titles they may be distinguished, ARE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THE PROPER EXERCISE OF IT.'

The sentiments of Mr. Belsham on this occasion, and on others, appear to be those of pure Whiggism and constitutional Freedom; and therefore we were not a little surprized to find them coincide with those of Dr. Johnson, an avowed Tory, and scarcely a concealed Jacobite. In an argument which the Doctor maintained with Goldsmith, on the maxim that "the king can do no wrong," Johnson observed:

"Political institutions are formed upon the consideration of what will most frequently tend to the good of the whole, although now and then exceptions may occur. Thus it is better in general that a nation should have a supreme legislative power, although it may at times be abused. And then, Sir, there is this consideration, that *if the abuse be enormous, nature will rise up, and, claiming her original rights, overturn a corrupt political system.*" *

It is not unfair to infer that Dr. Johnson considered "the abuse as enormous" which produced the revolution, since he declared that "it was become impossible for James II. to reign any longer in this country." †

As a specimen of animated composition, and at the same time of correct delineation of character, we shall transcribe Mr. Belsham's account of the Highlanders.

'The Viscount Dundee had inflamed his mind with the perusal of the ancient poets and historians, and yet more by listening to the heroic achievements celebrated in the popular and traditionary songs of his countrymen. His army was entirely composed of HIGHLANDERS—a singular people, of whom it is not sufficient barely to mention the name. Amidst the clouds and darkness which envelop the high and remote periods of historic antiquity, it appears from strong presumptive evidence, that at this æra the Highland nation exhibited the unmixed remains of that vast Celtic empire which once stretched from the pillars of Hercules to the sea of Archangel. The Highlanders were composed of a number of tribes or *clans*, each of which bore a different name, and lived upon the lands of a different chieftain. The members of every clan were connected with each other not only by the feudal but the patriarchal bond; and each of them could recount with pride the degree of his affinity to the common head. The castle of the chieftain was open and easy of access to every individual of the tribe. There all were

* See Boswell's Life of Johnson, 3d Edit. Vol. I. p. 382.
† *Ibid.* p. 388.

hospitably

hospitably entertained in times of peace, and thither all resorted at the sound of war. They lived in villages built in glens or deep valleys, and for the most part by the sides of rivers. At the end of spring they sowed their grain, and at the commencement of winter they reaped their scanty harvest. The rest of the year was all their own for amusement or for war. In the short interval of summer they indulged themselves in the enjoyment of a bright and lengthened sun, and in ranging over a wild and romantic country, frequently passing whole nights in the open air among the mountains and the forests. They spent the winter in the chace while the sun was up; and in the evening, assembling round a blazing hearth, they entertained themselves with the song, the tale and the dance. Their vocal music was plaintive even to melancholy, but their instrumental was bold, martial, and animating. In order to cherish high sentiments in the minds of all, every considerable family had an historian who recounted, and a bard who sung, the deeds of the clan and its chieftain, or on more solemn occasions the glorious exploits of their heroic ancestors. The vastness of the objects which surrounded them, lakes, mountains, rocks, cataracts, seemed to expand and elevate their minds; and the severity of the climate, with the nature of the country, and their love, in common with other semi-barbarous nations, of the chace and of war, forced them to great corporeal exertions: while their want of regular occupation on the other hand led them to contemplation and social converse. They received the rare and occasional visits of strangers with a genuine and cordial hospitality, never indulging in a rude or contemptuous ridicule of manners opposite to their own. Considering the inhabitants of the Lowlands in the light of invaders and usurpers, they thought themselves entitled to make reprisals at all convenient opportunities. What their enemies therefore called violence and rapine, they termed right and justice; and in the frequent practice of depredation they became bold, artful and enterprising. An injury done to one of the clan was held, from the common relation of blood, to be an injury to all. Hence the Highlanders were in the habitual practice of war; and hence arose in various instances between clan and clan mortal and deadly feuds, descending from generation to generation. They usually went completely armed with a broad sword, a durk or dagger, a target, musquet and pistols. Their dress consisted of a jacket and loose lower garment, with a roll of light woollen, called a *plaid*, wrapt round them so as to leave the right arm at full liberty. Thus equipped and accoutred, they would march 40 or 50 miles in a day, sometimes even without food or halting, over mountains, along rocks, through morasses; and they would sleep on beds formed by tying bunches of heath hastily and carelessly together. Their advance to battle was rapid; and after discharging their musquets and pistols, they rushed into the ranks of the enemy with their broad swords; and in close fight, when unable to use their ordinary weapon, they suddenly stabbed with the durk. Their religion, which they called Christianity, was strongly tinctured with the ancient and barbarous superstitions of the country. They were universally believers in ghosts and preternatural appearances. They

marked with eager attention the variable forms of their cloudy and changeful sky; from the different aspect of which, they foretold future and contingent events: and, absorbed in fantastical imaginations, they perceived in a sort of ecstatic vision things and persons separated from them by a vast interval of space. Each tribe had its peculiar dogmas and modes of faith, which the surrounding clans regarded with indifference, or at most with a cold dislike far removed from the rancor of religious hatred: and persecution for religion was happily a species of folly and wickedness unknown and unheard of amongst them.'

The whole account of the detestable massacre of Glencoe is interesting and impartial. The author justly imputes this atrocious deed to a private animosity between the families of Breadalbane and M'Donald, and to the malignant representations of secretary Stair. It is much to be wished that the instigators of such unparalleled cruelty had met with a punishment proportioned to their guilt.

We are here presented with an ingenious essay on the character of the first Earl of Shaftesbury; in which the author endeavours, with some success, to rescue this nobleman from the obloquy which has been thrown on him in the representations of Bishop Burnet, and afterward of Mr. Hume; who in this instance relied on the authority of the Bishop, though on most other occasions he deemed it undeserving of his confidence. Some of the particulars of this dissertation, which are of a curious nature, 'are extracted from original materials not yet made public, but which will probably appear at no very distant interval.'

On the character of King William, it must be confessed, Mr. Belsham delights to dwell; and such a predilection will be considered as something more than excuseable, by those who value the advantages resulting from the Revolution. Great, however, as is his partiality for this distinguished monarch, still it has not blinded his discernment to the faults and defects which were observable in his nature; and the following sketch of him will shew that Mr. B. can discriminate justly, even in a favourite object:

'Thus lived and died WILLIAM III. King of Great Britain and Stadtholder of Holland; a Monarch on whose great actions and illustrious character History delights to dwell. In his person he was not above the middle size, pale, thin and valetudinary. He had a Roman nose, bright and eagle eyes, a large front, and a countenance composed to gravity and authority. All his senses were critical and exquisite. His words came from him with caution and deliberation; and his manners, excepting to his intimate friends, were cold and reserved. He spoke Dutch, French, English, and German, equally well; and he understood Latin, Spanish and Italian,

Italian. His memory was exact and tenacious, and he was a profound observer of men and things. He perfectly understood and possessed a most extensive influence over the political concerns and interests of Europe. Though far above vanity or flattery, he was pertinacious in his opinions; and, from a clear perception or persuasion of their rectitude, was too impatient of censure or control. He attained not to the praise of habitual generosity, from his frequent and apparently capricious deviations into the extremes of profusion and parsimony. His love of secrecy was perhaps too nearly allied to dissimulation and suspicion; and his fidelity in friendship to partiality and prejudice. Though resentful and irritable by nature, he harbored no malice, and disdained the meanness of revenge. He believed firmly in the truth of religion, and entertained an high sense of its importance. But his tolerant spirit, and his indifference to the forms of Church Government, made him very obnoxious to the great body of the Clergy. He appeared born for the purpose of opposing tyranny, persecution, and oppression: and for the space of thirty years it is not too much to affirm that he sustained the greatest and most truly glorious character of any Prince whose name is recorded in history. In his days, and by his means, the first firm and solid foundations were laid of all that is most valuable in civil society. Every vindication of the natural and unalienable rights of mankind was, till he ascended the throne of Great Britain, penal and criminal. To him we owe the assertion and the final establishment of our constitutional privileges. To him the intellectual world is indebted for the full freedom of discussion, and the unrestrained avowal of their sentiments on subjects of the highest magnitude and importance. To sum up all, his character was distinguished by virtues rarely found amongst Princes—moderation, integrity, simplicity, beneficence, magnanimity. Time, which has cast a veil over his imperfections, has added lustre to his many great and admirable qualities. His political views were in the highest degree laudable and upright. He had true ideas of the nature and ends of Government: and the beneficial effects of his noble and heroic exertions will probably descend to the latest generations, rendering his name justly dear to the friends of civil and religious liberty, and his memory ever GLORIOUS and IMMORTAL.'

In concluding this article, we have only farther to inform our readers that a new Edition of Mr. Belsham's Historical Works, (including the present performance,) intitled *The History of Great Britain from the Revolution to the Session of Parliament ending in* 1793, has been published in four volumes 4to; in which, according to the preface, not only very considerable additions have been made to the text and notes, but the whole has been divided into books, with tables of contents, marginal dates and references, and a general index.

S.R.

ART.

ART. XV. *Antiquities of Ionia*, published by the Society of Dilettanti. Part the Second. Imperial Folio. 3l. 13s. 6d. Boards. Nicol.

THE happy genius and singular elegance of Grecian art must be a theme of admiration and praise, as long as any specimens or even any mutilated remains of the architecture or sculpture of that people shall exist. We feel grateful, therefore, to those men who have endeavoured to trace out the obscure vestiges of antient splendour; while we lament that the lands, which were once the most celebrated on the globe for science, arts, and arms,—where liberty was cradled, though not nurtured to maturity,—where the mind, under the influence of the most propitious climate, exerted its noblest energies,—and where it may be presumed that much yet exists which would indicate the greatness of their former masters,—should have fallen under the dominion of a race, who not only receive no pleasure from works of taste, but follow with a jealous eye all whom the love of the arts allures to their shores. Modern travellers in Greece and Asia Minor are continually obstructed in their researches by the jealousies and superstitions of the Turks; and our knowlege of these celebrated countries has been acquired with considerable difficulty and risk. Although perhaps no sound politician, in the present state and condition of Europe, will wish the Turks to be expelled from those regions in which Grecian taste once displayed her fascinating charms, yet there is little doubt that, if they were in the possession of a different people, and if they had been explored with as much opportunity and assiduity as some parts of Italy have been, many additional curious and valuable discoveries would have been effected. At present, we are to be thankful that the ruined edifices of our masters in the elegant arts are not inattentively suffered to moulder away, under the stupid gaze of those who are altogether insensible to their beauty: but that they have been visited and measured, their present state exhibited, and their proportions ascertained with as much accuracy as was possible. An inspection of the plates now before us may induce a sigh over the transitory nature of all sublunary grandeur. Even of the magnificent temples of the Gods, only a few naked columns and mutilated fragments remain; and where immense sums were once expended, and incomparable genius was displayed in the erection of gymnasia and theatres, in which a whole people assembled for deliberation or amusement,—all is now ruin and desolation!

When the first volume of this splendid exhibition of the Antiquities of Ionia made its appearance, we gave an ample account

account of its design and execution, in our XLII. vol. p. 368 *; and its continuation is a fresh proof of the taste and persevering zeal of the Society of Dilettanti.—A prefatory address introduces the specimens and details of the present volume; which proceeds, we are informed, from the classical pen of Mr. R. Payne Knight. This gentleman observes that, as in the *Ionian Antiquities*, the Society had presented to the public specimens of the luxuriant, and in some instances fanciful Architecture of the Asiatic Greeks, it was now their object to offer a few examples of the more chaste and severe style which prevailed in Greece itself, and in its European colonies.

'This style of architecture (he continues) is commonly called *Doric*, but might more properly be called *Grecian*, as being the only style employed either in Greece or its European colonies, prior to the Macedonian conquest. Before that period, all the temples of Greece, Sicily, and Italy, appear to be of one order and one general form, with only slight varieties. This form was an oblong square, of six columns by thirteen, or eight by seventeen, inclosing a walled cell; small in proportion, which, in some instances, appears to have been left open to the sky, and, in others, covered by the roof which protected the whole building. When the span of this roof was very wide, there appears in early times to have been a row of columns in the middle to support the rafters; the art of constructing any thing on the principle of an arch, even in wood, being then unknown.'

The size and mode of construction of the antient idolatrous temples evince, in our opinion, that they were not designed for the uses to which Christian churches are applied. The antient temple was probably rather considered as the house of the idol, and of his servants the priests, than as a place in which multitudes were to assemble for the purposes of religious instruction, or religious worship.—The temple of Jupiter Panellenius, (the plan and dimensions of which are given in plate 3.) measured no more from the centre of column to column than 41 feet 7 inches in width, and 90 feet 5 inches in length; and the inside of the aditum, or walled cell, was no more than 43 feet 5 inches long, and 20 feet 10 inches wide;—that of Minerva at Sunium, (a plan of which is given in plate 10.) was about the same size;—and though that of Jupiter Nemæus, between Argos and Corinth, (see the plan in plate 16.) was on a larger scale than either of the foregoing, yet in this the aditum was not more than about 30 feet broad and 90 long. The plan, (plate 19.) indeed, of the celebrated temple of Ceres at Eleusis, (in which, during the reign of idolatry, the most mysterious rites and ceremonies were

* The 1st volume was intitled, *Ionian Antiquities.*

performed,)

performed,) might induce a belief that this temple was of vast dimensions: but, as Mr. Knight observes, since nothing remains except part of the wall of the cell and the peribolus, which inclosed the sacred area, we can form only imperfect notions concerning it. There are certainly exceptions: for instance; 'The portico of the great temple of Selinus in Sicily, consisted of a double peristyle of eight columns in front, and seventeen in depth, each of which was ten feet in diameter and fifty feet high.' As a whole, however, this building could not vie in magnitude with either St. Peter's or St. Paul's, though it may surpass them in the massiveness of some individual parts. Extreme altitude was not an object with the antient Greek architects. They never piled order on order, like Mount Ossa on Pelion, and Olympus on Ossa; contenting themselves with one story, and in course with a single order: while we exhibit various orders in the same edifice, and in our churches appear solicitous of having them literally "*cloud capt.*"

Pope says,

"'Tis use alone that sanctifies expence."

Indeed, utility ought to be and perhaps generally is the first thought; and on this basis, taste and elegance superinduce beauty. In the *Doric order*, its first principles are easily traced, and Mr. Knight has endeavoured to elucidate this subject: but we question his position, that the flutes or channels in the columns were cut to hold the spears or staves which the early Greeks always carried. In support of this idea, he quotes a passage from the Odyssey of Homer: * but it is difficult to suppose that the words δουρὸδοχης εντοσθεν ευξοου, *the well polished spear-holder*, refer to the fluting of the columns; for why should these flutes or channels be well polished? The δουροδοχη must mean an armory, or spear-case; or be synonymous with δορατοθηκη, as the scholiast interprets it. We do not say that these channels were not used sometimes for the purpose of sustaining a spear: but we doubt whether this application suggested the first idea, any more than it produced the scoring or channelling of the triglyphs in the Doric frieze. If the ends of the rafters were originally scored, forming afterward the triglyphs, to prevent the adhesion of rain to them, (a supposition which the *guttæ* represented at the bottom confirms,) it is not improbable that the same thought led to the channelling or fluting of the column. Our remarks, however, shall not preclude Mr. K. from giving his own explanation of the origin of the old Doric Order:

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* Od. A. 127.

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'The ornamental part of this architecture, or that which properly distinguishes it as an order, is extremely simple, and such as necessarily results from the mechanism of the structure. The columns represented posts, or trunks of trees, placed on a basement of stone, to prevent them from sinking into the ground, or being decayed by the wet; and they were regularly tapered from the bottom to the top, as trees are by nature: channels, or flutes, were cut in them, to hold the spears or staves, which the early Greeks always carried; and on the tops were placed round stones, to protect them from the rain; and above, square ones, to receive the beam which supported the rafters of the ceiling. This beam became the architrave, while the ends of the rafters resting upon it, being scored or channelled to prevent the rain from adhering to them, became the triglyphs; the drops of which represent the drops of water distilling from them. The cornice was the projecting part of the roof; and the blocks, the ends of the rafters which supported it.'

Mr. Knight does not attempt to ascertain the date of these edifices: but we think that he is fully justified, in opposition to certain historical scepticism, in considering the many stupendous remains of antient magnificence as complete evidence of the vast population of these districts, at the time of their erection. He observes;

'The population of these little states was, in the times of their splendour, immense. Ægina had once four hundred and seventy thousand slaves; the proportionate number of whom to that of freemen, in ancient republics, was always *according to the monopoly of wealth:* probably in Greece, it was never more than twenty to one; for when Demetrius Phalereus numbered the Athenians, in the hundred and sixteenth Olympiad, there appeared to be four hundred thousand slaves, twenty-one thousand citizens, and ten thousand sojourners or free inhabitants; and though Athens was then fallen from its ancient greatness, it was still very wealthy, and had not probably reduced its proportion in any considerable degree; for luxury had grown as power had declined.' At Rome, towards the close of the republic, the number of slaves was prodigious, for the wealth of the world was then concentred in one spot. Private individuals had from ten to twenty thousand each; and as they were unprotected by the laws, and left to the care of stewards, who held them *subjectos tanquam suos, viles ut alienos*, they were often cruelly treated, and thence driven into those great rebellions, which almost desolated Italy and Sicily, and in which it has been computed that at least a million of them perished.'

This picture of the antient republics must suppress, in the bosom of the Christian and the humane philosopher, every wish for the return of those democratic governments, to which the studies of our youth are adapted to excite some partiality. Though the words Ο ΔΗΜΟΣ (*the people*) were engraven on their public monuments, their constitutions of government did not exclude the most horrible and oppressive slavery: they were,

indeed, completely aristocratical; and the popular leaders, as they were called, instead of being advocates for the equal diffusion of liberty, were only the heads of oligarchical parties.

Though neither in politics nor in religion will a wise man be desirous of exactly copying the Antients, yet there were an intercommunity and an union among the old idolators, from which various good consequences flowed in spite of the errors of the system. The Greeks had many cathedral or amphictyonic * temples, each built and kept up at the common expence of several confederate states: who at certain times offered joint sacrifices in them, and held meetings to confer on their united interests. Such were those of Delphi, Delos, Ephesus, Olympia, Eryx, &c.; and perhaps that of Jupiter Nemæus, delineated in this volume.

These amphictyonic temples were supported by public contributions, and by large territorial revenues:

'Which, not belonging (Mr. K. observes) to any *corporate* priesthood, but being under the direction of the magistrates, and held in trust for sacred uses, were not consumed in the gratification of private luxury and ambition, but employed to aggrandize and embellish public buildings, and to enrich them with works of costly and elegant art. As they were by the laws of war exempted from plunder, or exaction, in all contests of Greeks with Greeks, they were also made a sort of public banks, in which each state had its treasury, and in which individuals often deposited their most valuable effects, in times when the laws seemed too feeble to afford them protection.

'Mercantile interests being thus connected with devotion, the Greeks appear to have had temples of this kind, wherever they had established factories for trade. When Amasis, King of Egypt, granted them Naucratis, on the Canopic branch of the Nile, nine of the Asiatic cities joined in a common temple; while the more proud and wealthy states of Ægina, Samos, and Miletus, had each one to itself. They, indeed, readily assimilated the gods of other nations to their own, and joined in any rites, which local or temporary fashion employed to propitiate them; but these common temples, erected in distant countries to their national deities, served to nourish and strengthen the spirit of national attachment between one Greek state and another, and to consecrate, under the venerable forms of religious union, the ties of private interest and mercantile combination.'

This second volume contains Chapters V. VI. VII.; the first of which exhibits, together with views, plans, and architectural ornaments, accounts of a ruin near the Port of Ægina, —of the Temple of Jupiter Panellenius,—Temple of Minerva, at Sunium—Temple of Jupiter Nemæus, near Argos,—and of the Temple of Ceres, at Eleusis.

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* See an account of the Amphictyonic Councils, Rev. vol. xxx. N. S. p. 545. Appendix.

Chapter VI. includes—Arch at Mylassa—Sepulchre at Mylassa—Column of a Temple—Ruins at Baffi—Theatre at Stratonicea—Gymnasium at Ephesus—Fragments of a Temple—Theatre at Miletus—Stadium at Laodicea—Gymnasium at Troas—Theatre at Jassus—Theatre at Patara—Theatre at Castell Rosso—Theatre at Telmessus.

Chap. VII. contains an explanation of the vignettes which enrich this very superb publication, in addition to 59 other copper-plates: many of which are beautifully engraved by Byrne. The vignettes repesent an ivory tessera with the name of the poet Æschylus described on it,—a tessera, or ticket of admission to the eleventh row of those seats in the antient theatre, which included the cavea or pit,—and another of bronze, bearing in relief the words Δημοσιον ογδοον, or admission to the eighth cuneus on the seats appropriated to the citizens. There are also representations of the medals of Ægina and Eleusis; of a silver medal having the double hatchet, the symbol of Jupiter of Labranda; and of two allegorical subjects.

The Society expresses its obligations to Sir Robert Ainslie, for two views of the Theatre of Patara, and delineations of Castell Rosso and of Telmessus; which are taken from drawings by Mr. Myers in Sir Robert's possession, and finished under his inspection. The rest of the views, we are informed, have been engraved from drawings of the late Mr. Pars, belonging to the Society. The architectural designs are from those of Mr. Revett.

The work concludes with a deserved compliment to Dr. Chandler; of whose learned researches, the editor of this volume has amply availed himself.

Mo-y.

ART. XVI. *Marengo, or the Campaign of Italy, by the Army of Reserve, under the Command of the Chief Consul, Bonaparte.* Translated from the French of Joseph Petit, Horse-Grenadier in the Consular Guard. With a Map of the North-west Part of Italy; shewing the Route of the Army. To which is added, A Biographical Notice of the Life and Military Actions of General Desaix. By C. Foudras. 8vo. pp. 93. 2s. 6d. Jordan. 1800.

HOWEVER we may lament the vast preponderance which the French have obtained both in Italy and Germany, in consequence of their late successes, good policy as well as curiosity will induce us to ascertain, by all means in our power, the real state of facts; and in this view not to disregard even the relations of the enemy, provided that they manifest any symptoms of authenticity. The narrative before

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us appears to be genuine; and the reader, who knows how to make allowance for French vanity, may hence derive information respecting Bonaparte's late invasion of Italy. The author, having attended the Chief Consul over the difficult passes of the Alps, and fought by his side at the sanguinary battle of Marengo, was qualified to give the detail which he has here undertaken; and the important results of this expedition and victory will render every circumstance interesting to Europe, and to posterity. The history of this short but eventful campaign is here truly French; and it is impossible not to smile at the frequent ebullitions of French gasconade; yet, after these allowances are made, it may not perhaps exhibit an unfaithful picture. It contains some curious particulars, which could be collected only from the enemy:—it clearly proves that the Austrians fought with the most determined bravery; that, at Marengo, Bonaparte himself was very near being killed or taken prisoner; and that it was only the timely arrival of General Desaix and his troops which turned the fortune of the day, and decided the victory in favour of the French. The details of this battle really harrow up the soul; they prove it to have been on both sides a dreadfully well fought day: but they do not explain to us the necessity of those sacrifices which were subsequently made by the vanquished Austrians, in the immediate surrender of so many strong places into the hands of the French, as the price or condition of an armistice.

This history of the Italian campaign by the Army of Reserve commences with the passage of the mountain of Great St. Bernard; in which the difficulties of traversing regions of eternal frost, of transporting men, and their baggage, horses, mules, and artillery, over the tops of the Alps, are described; and Bonaparte is complimented with the title of the French Hannibal. It may indeed not only be said of the Chief Consul, that he had the same natural obstacles to surmount which opposed themselves to the Carthaginian, (*oppesuit Natura Alpemque nivemque,*) but that the modern mode of warfare in the use of artillery incumbered him with difficulties of a peculiar kind; and it is amusing to read of the contrivances and exertions by which they were surmounted. By bribes of money and liquor, the army was stimulated to scale these precipices. After five hours clambering, M. Petit tells us, each soldier was indulged with a glass of wine; which, though frozen, was so necessary to recruit their exhausted strength, that 'no one, not even the most avaricious, would have *exchanged that single draught for all the gold* of Mexico.' Bravo, Citizen Soldier!

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They had still to perform a journey of six leagues over these frightful mountains; and towards the middle of the march, it is added, 'the descent was so steep that the Consul was obliged to slide down it upon his breech from a height of sixty-five metres (about 200 feet).' 'The General's Aides-de-camp, Duroc, Maroi, Merlin, and others, went before him, and like ourselves, marched these six leagues on foot. The holes into which we fell every instant rendered this part of our journey over the mountains more fatiguing than the ascending them. We commenced our march at midnight, and did not arrive at the end of it till nine o'clock in the evening; and it might be said that for fourteen leagues we had scarcely eaten any food.'

To an account of the exertions and perils attending the passage, succeeds a description of Great St. Bernard, of the monastery of the Bernardins at the top, and of the sagacious dogs by whose instinct so many travellers are rescued from destruction. Dogs are perhaps the most amiable of the brute creation; and the following anecdote, if true, will serve to place them in a very engaging light:

'In summer, as well as in winter, many people perish among these almost inaccessible rocks. At the time we crossed them, the chapel was filled with dead bodies, which the dogs had discovered under the snow.

'With what emotions of pleasure did I caress these dogs so useful to travellers! how can one speak of them without being moved by their charitable instinct! Notwithstanding the paucity of our eatables, there was not a French soldier who did not manifest an eagerness to give them some biscuit, some bread, and even a share of their meat. Morning and evening these dogs go out on discovery; and if, in the midst of their wandering courses, the echo of some unfortunate creature ready to perish reaches their attentive ears, they run towards those who call out, express their joy, and seem to bid the sufferer take courage till they have been to seek assistance; in fact, they hasten back to the Convent, and with an air of inquietude and sadness, announce in a very discernible manner what they have seen. In that case a small basket is fastened round the dog's neck, filled with food proper for re-animating life almost exhausted; and, by following the *humane* messenger, an unhappy creature is snatched from impending destruction.'

Proceeding in his journal, this horse-grenadier details the taking of Aosta, and the affair of Chatillon; and though he admits the repulse and loss which the army experienced at Fort de Barre, the narration is *relieved* by a French flourish on the genius of Bonaparte. By the preface to the account of the assault, we are induced to suppose that the place was immediatley taken: but we soon learn that a retreat was thought

adviseable; and, on turning over the leaf, that 'it was absolutely necessary to avoid the fort,' and to take the dangerous passage by the rock of d'Albaredo.

The capture of Ivrea, the battle of Romagno, the entrance into Novarro, and the passage of the Tessino, are vauntingly related; and the obstacles which presented themselves are represented as 'sufficient *to have stopped the progress of any other than a French army.*' In the same style, is the remark on the acclamations with which the French were received at Milan.—'These acclamations penetrated our souls, and inspired us with *that modest pride that so well becomes conquerors.*'

Without noticing the intervening events, we shall now pass immediately to the decisive battle of Marengo: the night previous to which, says M. Petit, 'we passed at St. Juliano, without disquieting ourselves concerning the morrow.' By the subsequent relation, however, it is manifest that there was no reason for this boasted confidence. This writer tells us that 'the lofty eagle hovered every where around them, and threatened to tear in pieces the foot grenadiers of the consular guard;—the center gave way, the enemy out-stretched us, and turned our right wing;—'they had the superiority in an eminent degree'*;—'the garrison of Tortona, discovering the almost routed condition of our army, made a sortie, and thus we were surrounded on every part;'—'our artillery, in part dismounted or taken, had but little ammunition;'—'in short, at four o'clock in the afternoon, I have no hesitation in saying, that in a line of five miles or more, there did not stand six thousand infantry to their colours, and only six pieces of cannon could be made any use of.' In this awful moment, the Consul is represented as cool and collected, while the bullets were 'driving up the ground between his horse's legs.'—Little, according to this account, now seemed necessary to have decided the day in favour of the Austrians. Had their cavalry fallen on the dispersed ranks of the French, 'all had been lost irretrievably,' says M. Petit, and 'the Consul must have been taken or killed:'—'But (he continues) Victory was not far distant. Faithful to Bonaparte, she came at length.' In plain English, at this very critical moment, the divisions of Monnier and Desaix arrived on a full gallop, changed the appearance of things, and turned the scale in favour of the French; whose 'mettlesome fire' is now boastingly compared to 'a torrent that carries every thing away with it that opposes its passage.' 'All give way—all fly.'

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* P. 65. 'For twelve hours (he remarks) the Austrians had the upper hand of us.'

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The conclusion of so sanguinary a conflict must have produced a scene of horror, which it is impossible either to describe or to conceive. The death of Desaix, who, like Epaminondas and Wolfe, received a mortal wound in the moment of victory, is pathetically lamented; and though, in order more strongly to move and more deeply to interest our feelings, it is the practice of dramatists to direct the attention to one prominent figure, rather than to divide it amid a multitude, here the general scene is so loaded with misery, that the faintest description from the historian's pen cannot fail to touch the soul. We shall give the present account entire, as a lesson to Nations:

'The clock at Marengo struck ten, when we were returning slowly towards San Juliano. Numbers, harassed with fatigue, but more for want of sleep, dosed upon their horses' backs, but were every instant roused by the painful cries of those who were borne across firelocks or temporary hand-barrows; or of those who, abandoned and scattered in the fields, implored our aid. Thus every humane and sensitive heart was penetrated with that melancholy to which the true soldier is no stranger, and which does him so much honour. Horses, limping here and there, upon three legs, calling to our own by their instinctive neighings; at every step too it was necessary to turn out of our way, so as to avoid treading upon the wounded. The ditches and the road often presented the scene of caissons, and other carriages, as well as cannon, overturned. Further off we beheld houses devoured by the flames, and tumbling upon the heads of the wretched owners, half dead by the fears which had driven them to the expedient of hiding themselves in the cellars and other subterraneous places. The total darkness which surrounded us, made the picture additionally frightful. Prisoners, not knowing where to go, but with the hope of escaping, wandered at random. If they were met by French soldiers, bending under the weight of their comrades, they were forced to turn back, and bear on their shoulders those respectable burdens.

'At length arrived at head-quarters, which served as the Ambulance to the army, every one stowed himself, as he could, among the dying and the dead, without the piercing cries of the former being able any longer to surmount the violence of sleep. The next morning, hunger taking its turn to prevail, I, in a melancholy condition, entered the great court to look for something for myself and horse to eat. I was there struck with a sight so horrible, that I shuddered all over. More than three thousand Frenchmen and Austrians, heaped one upon another in the yard, in the granaries, in the stables and out-houses, even to the very cellars and vaults, were uttering the most lamentable cries, blended with the severest curses against the surgeons, there being too few to dress all their wounded at once. Every where I heard the languishing voices of comrades, or of my particular friends, who begged of me something to eat or drink. All that I could do was to fetch them some water.

In truth, forgetting my own wants, and those of my horse, I staid more than two hours, running backwards and forwards, performing, by turns, the part of a surgeon and an hospital attendant.

'Prisoners were brought in from every part, which increased the number of the famished. In short, this was a day that appeared of an insupportable length to all of us. However, an event which gave birth to a great many conjectures, moderated, in some degree, our endless inquietudes. An Austrian officer came to parley, and a French aid-de-camp set out immediately to Alessandria. No one knew any thing of this business, and yet every one made a gazette of it, after his own manner. Berthier went off to that place about noon, leaving us all in the greatest expectation, for no one dared to hope for that which we learnt the next day to have been obtained. We were early in the morning informed of the news of the armistice, which filled the French army with a joy never before experienced; while that of the Austrian, storming with rage, filed off the next and succeeding days before us, on the field of battle, still reeking with their and our blood, and where the dead carcasses began to taint the air with their putrid exhalations.

'And now a supply of subsistence and other necessaries began to arrive, as well as carriages for the conveyance of the sick. A fraternal partition of these comforts was made among all the victims of that bloody day. Without any inquietude or jealousy, the Austrian was seen with the Frenchman, who, two days before, would have cut one another's throats. They were seen to receive from the same hands, under the same roof, in the same chamber, the required help and the urgent care of succouring humanity.'

M. Petit makes the whole loss of the enemy, in the course of the campaign, 65,000 men: but the French loss he does not mention, only remarking in general that the victory of Marengo cost the Republic dear. The French army, at the moment when the battle commenced, is estimated at from forty to forty-five thousand men; and the Austrian army, at the same instant, at from fifty-five to sixty thousand: but it is probable that the latter number is exaggerated.

The detail concludes with a speech which General Melas is here said to have made, on being presented by Bonaparte with a Turkish sabre brought from Egypt. We doubt whether these could have been the exact words of the Austrian General, and we suspect a little French interpolation.

The memoir on the death and character of General Desaix bears the marks of authenticity; and, as a compliment to a brave man, it will not be unacceptable to the British nation, who know how to respect talents and virtue in an enemy as well as in a friend.

Mo-y.

ART. XVII. *Cecco's Complaint*, translated from *Il Lamento de Cecco da Varlungo*, of Francisco Baldovini, by John Hunter, Esq. 8vo. pp. 74. 2s. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1800.

THIS playful poem is written in the provincial dialect of Tuscany, of which Boccaccio has left an example in the second novel of his eighth day. A singular and pleasant species of poetry was afterward constructed on this foundation, termed the rustic or *contadinesca* style; and Mr. Hunter has given a list of illustrious authors who have excelled in this simple and rural species of poetry: among whom are enumerated Lorezno il Magnifico, Luigi Pulci, Francesco Berni, &c. but all of whom have been excelled by Francesco Baldovini. The poem before us, however, having been a production of his early youth, and he afterward becoming an ecclesiastic, he dismissed all ideas of this juvenile composition from his mind; and a correct edition would perhaps never have appeared, but for the friendly zeal of Bartolommei, who obtained the MS. from Baldovini himself, and published it at Florence in 1694. Another complete edition appeared there in 1755, with the author's life by Domenico Manni, and curious notes by Marini.

In Manni's biography, we are told that Fran. Baldovini was born at Florence in 1634. His first studies were devoted to the law, which his father wished him to pursue as a profession: but, after the death of his parents, he gave himself wholly up to the enchantments of poetry and music. On visiting Rome, he obtained, through the interest of his uncle Cardinal Flavio Chigi, the place of secretary to Cardinal Jacopo Filippo; and in that city, at the age of forty, he entered into holy orders. In 1676 he obtained the living of St. Leonardo d'Artimino; and in 1694, Cosmo III. Grand Duke of Tuscany, conferred on him the priorship of Orbatello; which in 1699 he changed for that of *Santa Felicita*. In the discharge of his new functions, he gave equal satisfaction to the court, the religious orders, and his parishioners, by his exemplary piety, and his rigid attention to the duties of his station; to which the amiableness of his manners, his knowlege of the world, and his proficiency in learning, rendered him perfectly adequate. He lived in prosperity and health till his 82d year, and died in 1716.

We have extracted this account of the original author of the poem, from his present translator's preface and sketch of his life; because Baldovini is a name little known in our country, and because his poem is of a species neither heroic nor burlesque, but a middle species, simple, rustic, and pleasant.

Perhaps no poetry in our language resembles it more than Gay's Pastorals.

We have now to speak of the translation, which has considerable merit. Mr. H. has not imitated the original so far as to give his version in a provincial dialect, but he has avoided lofty metaphors or expressions; and his verses may be truly called rustic, and regarded as in the Doric mode. The language is idiomatic, and composed of proverbs and phrases in the genuine pastoral style.

The first stanza is less happy than the rest:

> 'What time blyth May Varlungo's pleasant meads,
> 'Long Arno's shore in youthful green array'd,
> And on the river bank fresh herbs and reeds,
> And dainty flowers their vivid tints display'd.'

The elision of 'long for *a*long is not allowable;—and in the next line, after *Arno's shore* had been mentioned, to speak of the *river bank* is a pleonasm, and not very poetical. Perhaps the following quatrain would be less objectionable:

> What time blyth May Varlungo's pleasant meads,
> On Arno's shore in youthful green array'd,
> And on his fertile banks fresh herbs and reeds,
> And dainty flowers their vivid tints display'd;
> A life of woe the shepherd Cecco leads, &c.

The IXth is a very pleasing stanza, though all the ideas of the original are not preserved. It is difficult, in English, to supply the necessary rhymes when closely adhering to the laws of the Italian octave stanza; and the ingenious translator of this poem, we are inclined to think, met with this difficulty in the Xth stanza, when he made the *senses spin.*

Stanza XV. l. 2. We think that the word *refus't* is a very harsh and unnecessary contraction; and, as *if* governs the subjunctive mood, *refuse* would be more grammatical, as well as more melodious, even if the word *refusest* could be given entire. In this stanza, however, Mr. H. has judiciously omitted *La Tenina, e la Teu del Prato,* as the names would have encumbered the verse, without interesting the reader.

From stanza XVII. to XXXII. the version is reasonably close and flowing: but we think that the fourth line of this last mentioned stanza is feeble, and very unequal to the original. *Cecco,* enumerating the omens of his death from *Sandra*'s cruelty, says that his bees had swarmed on his rival's trees,—adding:

> 'I jingled keys and pans at such a rate,
> With fruitless hope to coax them home again;
> For angrily they cluster'd round my pate,
> And stung me till I *smarted* with the pain.'

This

This is a very mild complaint, for a man with a swarm of angry bees on his head. The original says;

E m'han con gli aghi lor tutto forato.

Literally—

And with their stings have bor'd me through and through.

Perhaps Mr. Hunter might have preserved his rhyme, and nearly the original idea, by something like this:

Pierc'd me with stings, and tortur'd me with pain.

The pastoral, or rather the rustic, character and spirit of the rest of this little production are well preserved. The swain's determination to die, his adieu, and his last resolves, terminate the poem in the following manner:

'Farewell, my little farm, my flowery mead,
That long have nourish'd me with kind supplies;
Since my unfriendly destiny's decreed
That only death can dry my tearful eyes;
Thy soil shall lightly o'er my bones be spread,
When Sandra's frown and smile alike I prize.
Thy pleasant prospects I no more shall view,
'Tis my last look, and now a long adieu.

'Thus Cecco griev'd, and from his mistress hied
By some heroic death to end his woe;
But as the sun he in the west espied,
Laid down to sleep before he gave the blow;
And when he 'woke, reflecting if he died
His little farm would all to ruin go;
He hence consenting milder thoughts to nourish,
Resolv'd to live, that his affairs might flourish.'

A comparison of those passages of eminent poets, which Baldovini either designedly imitates or accidentally resembles, is added; and also an explanation of difficult and mutilated expressions.

Dr B....y.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,
For FEBRUARY, 1801.

ASTRONOMY.

Art. 18. *Fasciculus Astronomicus*, containing Observations of the Northern Circumpolar Region; together with some Account of the Instrument with which they were made: and a new Set of Tables, by which they were reduced to the mean Position for the beginning of January 1800. To which are added, a few other Papers and Precepts, which it was imagined might be acceptable to the practical Astronomer. By Francis Wollaston, F. R. S. 4to. pp. 350. 1l. 5s. Boards. Wilkie. 1800.

In the astronomical catalogue published in the year 1789, its author, Dr. Wollaston, proposed that astronomers should agree on some

regular plan of observing the heavens: that each should take the portion which best suited him; and that he should communicate the result of his observations to one common stock. The author of the present Fasciculus, in order to be enabled to execute with greater facility his own part in the above scheme, constructed a new instrument, of which a description was read before the Royal Society in May 1793. With this instrument, he observed the most difficult district of the heavens, viz. the Circumpolar Region; and the result of his observations is now communicated in the volume before us.

The method of observation is thus described: 'The motion of stars near the Pole was soon found much too slow for an observer to lose his time in waiting for their passage over the 5 perpendicular wires in the Telescope. Indeed, after a little practice, it was perceived that a sufficiently accurate observation could be made by using only the Meridian Wire; at least to all within 10° of the Pole. The other wires were therefore only attended to, when time happened to admit of it; as a cheque upon the others, and for the completing of an observation which might at any subsequent time prove incomplete.

'The Transit Clock being kept to sidereal time, and going very regularly, there was really no great occasion for examining it each night; but there were very few evenings indeed in which that was not done. It was an assurance of the rate of the Clock, and of the Transit Circle itself remaining truly in the meridian before its steadiness was known. The error of the clock on each evening, being applied with a contrary sign to the observed transit of a star, was considered as giving the apparent RA of that star at that instant. Those are the numbers set down in the observations contained in the next Chapter.

'Each star, as soon as ever it had passed the Meridian Wire, was carefully bisected or covered by the middle horizontal one, and afterwards as carefully read'd off with both the Microscopes. One of these giving the Zenith Distances, and the other the Altitudes, the sum of those two readings ought to make exactly 90 degrees. I will not affirm that to have been always the case, though it was so very frequently. Where it was not, the difference was halved, and the mean set down for the truth; unless it was in any part where an error was suspected or known to exist in the divisions on the circle itself, or in the setting of either microscope, which then was applied accordingly.

'These are not set down in the following lists of the Observations, as they appeared on these readings. For the error of the Instrument in collimation has been applied to each; in order to save trouble to those gentlemen who may choose to compare the observations with each other, or to examine the Catalogue deduced from them.'

We subjoin the Table of Contents:

'Chap. I. The Origin and Design of the Work: an Examination of the Northern Circumpolar Region by Meridian Observations: together with the Latitude and Longitude of the Station where they were made.

'Chap.

'Chap. II. The Observations of each Star classed together: with an Account of such Particulars as are known to the Author concerning it.

'Chap. III. A Catalogue of such Stars as have been observed: brought up to the Beginning of January 1800, and classed in small Zones.

'Chap. IV. Remarks on the preceding Catalogue: with an Account of a Set of Maps which have been engraved from it.

'Chap. V. On the Transit-Circle with which the Observations were made.

'Part II.—Chap. VI. On a Portable Azimuth Altitude and Transit-Circle; with some Instructions concerning it.

'Chap. VII. On some peculiar Advantages of an Azimuth Altitude and Transit Circle.

'Appendix.—Part I. Containing Tables, &c. by which the Observations were reduced.

'Part II. Containing sundry Instructions and Tables, which the Author apprehends may be found of Use to those who feel themselves to stand in need of them.'

R. Wood.

EDUCATION.

Art. 19. *A New Method of Instruction for Children, from Five to Ten Years old*, including Moral Dialogues, the Children's Island, a Tale, Thoughts and Maxims, Models of Composition in Writing for Children Ten or Twelve Years old, and a New Method of teaching Children to Draw. Translated from the French of Madame de Genlis. 12mo. pp. 320. 4s. Boards. Longman and Co. 1800.

We announced the *Nouvelle Methode d'Enseignment*, of which this volume contains a translation, in the Appendix to our xxxist volume. The little collection of ballads, which the author proposed as a substitute for songs of a licentious tendency, (too commonly learnt by young people in France,) are here omitted 'as unnecessary;' the translator observing that, 'in our more favoured country, we have fortunately no dearth of moral songs and poems.' The same kind of reasoning might, doubtless, have been applied to the work itself; since no one can pretend that, in this country, there is a dearth of books on the subject of Education. The little poems in question, or at least a selection from them, might have been esteemed an useful ornament to the translation. A prose version, however, might have appeared more ungraceful than the present omission.

The translator has thought it necessary occasionally to take other licences, but has been at pains to adhere to the sense of the original. A few inadvertencies appear in the language, but in general it is easy; and in the dialogues it is suited to the characters.

Capt. B...y.

Art. 20. *New Tales of the Castle;* or, the Noble Emigrants; a Story of modern Times. By Mrs. Pilkington. 12mo. 2s. Boards. Newberry. 1800.

There can be no doubt that the youthful reader will be interested in this production of Mrs. Pilkington's pen. With the principal tale, some others are interwoven, which agreeably diversify the little volume;

volume; and the tendency of the whole is to inspire and promote industry, contentment, patience, resignation, probity, benevolence, and fortitude. A character so unnatural as that of Miss Fitzosborn's mother is, we trust, very rarely (if ever) to be found: but it presents a powerful argument to guard against partiality in the treatment of children.—For what reason the good lady hesitates in pronouncing on idleness as a vice, (p. 76.) we know not; since she at the same time deems it, as it certainly is, the parent of iniquity. Hi.

Art. 21. *A Guide to the Study of the History of England*, in a Series of Questions upon Goldsmith's Abridgement. By M. Florian. 12mo. 1s. Half bound. Newberry.

This little book may not be without its use, to those persons who wish to examine their children, or pupils, on their progress in the study of the English history; though some of the questions may be deemed frivolous or superfluous; and others are so obvious as naturally to suggest themselves to every person who bestows any thought on the subject. Ban.

Art. 22. *Instructive and entertaining Dialogues for Children;* by Mrs. Guppy. 2 Vols. 12mo. 1s. stitched. Hurst. 1800.

Pretty little dialogues and illustrations, fitted to amuse and inform the mind in that early period for which they are immediately calculated. Any profits, which may accrue from the work, are destined to the use of a charity-school for girls at Bristol. Hi.

Art. 23. *The Rational Exhibition for Children.* 12mo. 1s. 3d. bound. Darton and Harvey. 1800.

A curious collection of short stories, rather of the uncommon kind, calculated to engage attention: but, if the narratives should not have attracted the young reader's notice, the numerous prints certainly will; which are very superior to those that are commonly found in publications of this sort. The little histories are informing, entertaining, and generally convey some useful moral instruction.—The last story may prove a very seasonable and striking admonition to those thoughtless youths who indulge in acts of cruelty towards the brute creation. Do

Art. 24. *New Orthographical Exercises*, for the Use of English Seminaries, in Five Parts, &c. &c. By Charles Allen. 12mo. 1s. 6d. bound. West. 1800.

The increase of books on grammar, language, pronunciation, &c. is become perplexing and burdensome; we do not mean merely to us reviewers, which is a matter of but small regard, but to the public. The variety, the multiplicity, and we may add, the inconsistency, of this kind of publications are sufficient to confound and discourage not only teachers and their scholars, but all others who wish to attain and preserve a just and proper acquaintance with their own tongue, and to avoid all affectation in pronouncing it. However, we entirely concur with Mr. Allen in approving Dr. Johnson's rule,—"that the properest pronunciation is that which is closest to the orthography:" but we may be allowed to doubt concerning *this*, as of other good rules, whether much regard is paid to it in what are denominated *the best circles*. Do

NOVELS.

NOVELS.

Art. 25. *Rimualdo;* or, The Castle of Badajos. A Romance. By W. H. Ireland. 12mo. 4 Vols. 14s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1800.

The title of romance still invigorates our spirits. Old as we are, it recalls to our recollection the stories in which our youth delighted, of wandering knights, tilts, tournaments, enchanted castles, formidable giants, sea monsters, distressed damsels, tremendous fights, and impossible valour. We forget, however, that "the days of chivalry are gone;" and that, in the *present-day romance*, we must expect little other amusement than the oglio of the modern novel supplies: consisting of unnatural parents,—persecuted lovers,—murders,—haunted apartments,—winding sheets, and winding stair-cases,—subterraneous passages,—lamps that are dim and perverse, and that always go out when they should not,—monasteries,—caves,—monks, tall, thin, and withered, with lank abstemious cheeks,—dreams,—groans,—and spectres.

Such is the outline of the *modern* romance; and Mr. Ireland's copy is not unworthy of its numerous prototypes. We have here, in the personages of the drama, a parent and a husband in the Marquis of Badajos, as wicked and as unnatural as any with whom we have before had the honor of being acquainted.—We have a son in the Condé Rimualdo, as eminent for filial piety as Æneas himself.—We have patient suffering innocence in the fair Constanza, equalling, if not transcending any of our novel heroines.—We have *very good* haunted towers,—and a *spectre* that stands supremely eminent over the whole race of ghosts.—Hamlets and Banquos were no more than *mawkins* in a cherry-tree, compared with that terrific vision which Rimualdo encounters on entering the old ruined chapel in the forest.—Though familiarized very much, lately, to these apparitions, we did not feel inclined to go to bed, till we had puffed away the recollection of this spectre in a whiff of tobacco, and re-animated our fleeting spirits by a double draught of old October: which will not be matter of surprise to the reader, when he learns that the hero himself, the brave Rimualdo, dropped down in a swoon immediately on seeing it!

Murder is in this romance too much *the order of the day*. We have murders in castles, in forests, and in cottages; and, to borrow a word from the author, we are too frequently *enhorrored*.—*Raw head and bloody bones* is continually at our heels, through a long journey of 926 pages; and we were therefore happy to get rid of him, and to leave our terrified fellow-travellers calmly settled in the unhaunted Castilio di Montalvan.

Mr. Ireland's language is animated and flowing, when it is *not inflated* with pomposity. The Escurial (for the scene of action is in Spain) is well and minutely described; and the Castle of Badajos is a pleasing picture: but, like some sister *Novelists*, he deals too profusely in poetic description, and the common operations of Nature are never detailed in common language. Morning never appears without 'Aurora's tints that crown the summits of the distant mountains.'—The sun never rises but 'as the imperial charioteer of day, hast'ning his car of blazing light towards green ocean's occidental flood-gate.'

The

The moon is always full orb'd, yet never looks *full* at us, but peeps behind fleecy clouds.—Night never forgets to assume the appropriate dignity of her sable mantle, with which (when she is not in a good humour) 'she overspreads heaven's countless luminaries;'—and if the hero and heroine are in a storm, God alone can help them,—for then 'impetuous winds blow from *every direction* (*all at once*), flakey lightning emblazons night's ebon robe, and full charged clouds *discharge* tremendous explosions.'

Thus is poetic imagery blended with prose detail; producing a medley of heterogeneous language totally destructive of good writing, by violating those principles of harmonious congruity which form the basis of a correct and uncontaminated diction. Mrs Mo-y.

Art. 26. *The Runaway;* or, the Seat of Benevolence. By Mr. Smith. 12mo. 4 Vols. 14s. sewed. Crosby and Co. 1800.

This work contains a mixture of improbabilities and *novel common places*, conveyed in a style more humble and ungrammatical than we usually discover even in the common productions of this class. The author appears to be desirous of aiding the cause of morality, but he certainly cannot support the interests of literature. G.2.

LAW.

Art. 27. *A compendious View of the Ecclesiastical Law*, being the Substance of a Course of Lectures read in the University of Dublin, by Arthur Browne, Esq. S.F.T.C.D. Professor of Civil Law in that University, and Representative in Parliament for the same. To which is added, A Sketch of the Practice of the Ecclesiastical Courts, with some Cases determined therein in Ireland, and some useful Directions for the Clergy. Vol. IId. 8vo. pp. 700. 14s. Boards. Butterworth.

In a former article *, we gave an ample and commendatory account of the preceding part of this work. The first sixty pages of the present volume are allotted to the third book of the author's View of the Civil Law; in which wrongs, both public and private, and their remedies, are discussed; and a separate lecture is given to the consideration of the Roman courts and actions. On this part of his subject, as Mr. Browne judiciously observes, a careful selection and abridgment are alone to be expected: as he professes only to convey to the common lawyer the general outline of the civil law, and not to insert any thing superfluous, or in the present day uninteresting. It follows, therefore, that the Roman criminal law cannot take up long consideration. *De publicis judiciis, summo digito et quasi per indicem tetigimus; diligentior eorum scientia ex latioribus Pandectarum libris adventura est.—Conclusio Institutorum.*—The subject, however, is curious and full of interest, though not professionally useful.

That portion of the volume before us, which treats of ecclesiastical law, relates principally to Ireland, but may be found of advantage to the practising English lawyer. In this division of his subject, the author considers ecclesiastical courts, and the practice of them; the

* M. Rev. *N.S.* vol. xxix. p. 402.

practice

practice of the court of Admiralty; the several orders of persons in the church; ecclesiastical benefices; and ecclesiastical property. An Appendix of one hundred pages is subjoined, in which are introduced, I. Notes of cases and points determined in the ecclesiastical and admiralty courts in Ireland since the year 1785. II. Advice to students of law. III. and IV. Cases interesting to ecclesiastics decided in England, and a table of Irish ecclesiastical statutes passed since the publication of Dr. Bullingbrooke's work on ecclesiastical law. V. Some additional late cases in the ecclesiastical and admiralty courts. VI. *Material* notes omitted in their proper places.

Such are the contents of this volume; in which we have observed many marks of haste, and many instances of inaccuracy. Indeed the author seems to be aware that his work is not free from errors, which a little more attention on his part might have avoided: but he urges the great variety of business in which he has been engaged, and the innumerable distractions of his thoughts, as excuses for his inaccuracy.—Had the publication been a matter of compulsion, we should have listened with indulgence to such a plea: but to present to the world voluntarily a crude undigested mass, by the author himself allowed to be so, (or how otherwise would it have been necessary to have introduced the sixth article of his Appendix?) is a singular neglect of literary reputation, and an unpardonable liberty with the public.

S. R.

Art. 28. *The Proceedings of the House of Lords, in the Case of Benjamin Flower*, Printer of the Cambridge Intelligencer, for a supposed Libel on the Bishop of Llandaff; with prefatory Remarks and Animadversions on the Writings of the Bishop of Llandaff, the Rev. R. Ramsden, A.M. Fellow of Trinity College; and the Rev. Robert Hall, A.M. Minister of the Baptist Meeting, Cambridge. By the Printer. To which are added the Argument in the Court of King's Bench, on a Motion for an *Habeas Corpus*, and a Postscript, containing Remarks on the Judgment of that Court, by Henry Clifford of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister at Law. 8vo. 4s. Boards. Crosby and Letterman. 1800.

The punishment incurred by the author of this book has not in the least degree subdued his spirit; nor does the terror of future confinement check the freedom of his sentiments, and the boldness of his avowal of them. Indeed, were we solely to judge from the manner in which this work is written, we should pronounce that its author enjoyed the *rara temporum felicitas, ubi sentire quæ velis, et quæ sentias dicere liceat.*——

The several contents of the publication are explained in the copious title-page. The chief objects of Mr. F.'s animadversions are Mr. Richard Ramsden and Mr. Robert Hall: the latter eloquent writer is examined relatively to the consistency of his religious and political opinions: but the examination is similar to that which the executioner inflicts on the culprit on the wheel and rack.—The consistency of an individual's political conduct and sentiments forms no fit subject for our discussion: we take cognizance of different matters; and we leave Mr. Hall to his own vindication. If he

should

so far R. Wood.

should think it right to defend himself, his powers will no doubt render him disdainful of assistance.

We cannot agree with Mr. Flower that the publication, for which he suffered punishment, can be denominated with any propriety '*a supposed* libel;' the House of Lords, who in cases of contempt must be considered in the light of jury and judges, decided that it was "a gross and scandalous libel;" and the defendant himself so far admitted the truth of the charge, as to speak in palliation of his offence, and in mitigation of punishment. To the nice distinctions which he endeavours to introduce on this subject, we can by no means assent; if an author once acknowleges a particular work to be a libel, he is not afterward at liberty to avow a different opinion: in the language of the law, he is stopped by his own confession; and in this predicament stands Mr. Flower.

Mr. Clifford's argument, on the application to the court for an *Habeas Corpus*, was certainly able, though unsuccessful: but we are of opinion that his labour was considerably facilitated by Mr. Hargrave's exertions, in his late valuable publication on the Jurisdiction of the House of Lords. Mr. C.'s remarks on the judgment of the court appear to us very indecorous; the sentence is allowed to be consonant to law; and his review of it is, to say the least, unprecedented. His attempt to justify the character of Lord Clifford, though it may be honourable in a descendant, has not changed our opinion of a person whom we have ever considered as the worst individual in a confederacy, which was constantly engaged in designs and acts that were disgraceful to the members of it, and injurious to their country.

this S.R.

POLITICS, &c.

Art. 29. *Causes of the Scarcity investigated:* also an Account of the most striking Variations in the Weather, from October, 1798, to September 1800. To which is prefixed the Price of Wheat, every Year, from 1600 to the present Æra. By Samuel Hopkinson, B. D. late Fellow of Clare-Hall. 8vo. 2s. Debrett.

If the preface alarmed our fears for this author, the perusal of his pamphlet dissipated them. When Mr. H., after the mention of his academical education, told us that he always feels the impressions of the *Poor Indian with untutored mind*, we were apprehensive that academical learning was about to make no very favourable exhibition of itself: but we were agreeably disappointed. We have no doubt that Mr. Hopkinson has suggested one of the concurrent causes of scarcity;—we say concurrent, because the present high prices do not spring from one solitary source. Every gentleman will recollect the destruction made by severe winters, among the tender shrubs of his ornamental plantations: scarcely an arbutus has survived; and to winters of extreme cold have succeeded unfavourable springs and summers, and one very wet autumn: all of which must have tended to obstruct or to spoil the produce of the earth. Diminution of production on the one side, and increased consumption and waste on the other, by the necessary operations of war, have therefore concurred to inflict on us

the miseries of scarcity; and other circumstances of a subordinate nature have combined to increase the general distress.—Those who are desirous of tracing the operation of the seasons may receive some instruction from the present pamphlet. Mo-y.

Art. 30. *The dark Cloud in the Political Hemisphere broken*, and a bright Beam of Consolation issuing therefrom, in Favour of his Majesty's Ministers and depressed Stockholders. With a few Words of advice to Growlers, and the dissatisfied of every Description; also a Method prescribed, founded on Reason and Experience, for removing their Discontent, and rendering their Minds easy under the present State of Public Affairs. Respectfully addressed to the Right Hon. William Pitt. By an old Naval Officer. 8vo. 1s. Scott.

This pious naval officer concludes his pamphlet with a long prayer, to be used during the present war; and if what he says be well founded, we have peculiar motives for the practice of piety; for he asserts that 'Britain is God's Zion, and that neither men nor devils shall prevail against her.' If this be the case, growlers must be an abominable set of people; and this writer may well be out of humour with them. We are taught to hope that the Northern Powers, who are represented as '*lifting up the heel* of ingratitude against Great Britain,' will detest themselves for their abhorred injustice; and as to the French Republic, a *sea-war* must be maintained with her till she owns 'that Britain's isles are Heaven's favourites.' Viewing the subject through this medium, there is nothing gloomy in our situation: but self delusion always leads to the worst consequences, mental and corporeal, moral and political. Do

Art. 31. *Thoughts on the best Modes of carrying into Effect the System of Economy recommended in His Majesty's Proclamation.* 8vo. 6d. Wright.

Dr. Johnson said of himself that "he could practise *abstinence* but not *moderation*:" Now if all were like him, we fear that it would be in vain to inculcate the saving system; for by alternate fits of fasting and repletion nothing is ultimately gained. The present writer recommends to the heads of families in the present season, (whether of real scarcity or factitious dearness,) moderate self-denial, and an undeviating attention to the most prudent management in the use of bread, and of substitutes for it; and he has a right to be heard, because he preaches to others only what (as he says) he practises himself. As a guide to family economy, the pamphlet merits general attention: as it is written with a good motive, the author is intitled to respect; and, as it may do some good, and cannot do any harm, we may very safely recommend it. Do

Art. 32. *A Letter to the Right Honourable William Pitt*, on the Influence of the Stoppage of Issues in Specie at the Bank of England, on the Prices of Provisions, and other Commodities. By Walter Boyd, Esq. M. P. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Wright.

All those persons who have limited incomes feel the singular pressure of the times with peculiar sensibility. Whence does this evil arise?

arise? is a very interesting question, which many writers are now employed to solve. Some look no farther than to the agents immediately employed in the business of supplying provisions, and vent their rage against forestallers, engrossers, monopolizers, and middle men. Others search higher; and discover, or seem to discover, the source of our sorrows in those who direct the great machine of Government itself. Mr. Boyd ranks in this latter class. He is of opinion that, when we speak of "increase of price," we might with more propriety talk of "Depreciation of Paper;" and that 'the profusion of paper has blown up the nominal value of the capital of the public debt,' and has in consequence augmented the price of all the necessaries of life: for, says he, 'the system of paper money, not convertible into specie at pleasure, tends to diminish the value of the annuities which the country grants in borrowing, and therefore obliges both the government and the people to advance more nominal money, than usual, for the same thing.' There is much apparent truth in his reasoning; and his detail of the awful consequences likely to ensue from the stoppage of issues in specie at the Bank results from much knowlege and experience, and therefore merits serious attention. Adverting to the unhappy situation of his own private affairs, he fears that his opinion may not be regarded: but he assures Mr. Pitt that his views are purely patriotic; and he conjures him 'to bring back the circulation of Bank Notes to their original condition,' as the surest means of correcting an abuse which ought never to have existed.

In the present attitude of our public affairs, there is no immediate prospect of the application of this proposed remedy. We fear, with Mr. Boyd: but our fear is mingled with hope.

P. S. An enlarged edition of this letter, with replies to Mr. B.'s opponents, is advertized, but too late for us to have an opportunity of perusing it this month.

Mo-y.

Art. 33. *Brief Observations on a late Letter* by W. Boyd, Esq. &c. &c. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Debrett.

The author of these observations classes Mr. Boyd among the men, *consilia qui dant prava*, and suspects him of 'a design to make every thing appear wrong when every thing in reality is right.' On the other hand, we cannot but observe that to intimate that 'every thing is right' is an insult on common sense; and that to attribute so base a motive to Mr. Boyd is highly illiberal. How far he is right or wrong is matter of fair inquiry, and the subject on which he has given his opinion is of sufficient importance to provoke discussion.

The present writer resists the position of Mr. B., that the high price of grain and the advance in the other necessary articles of life are to be attributed to the increase of paper currency. He may have reason in maintaining that this is not the sole cause, but it is generally understood that the increase of paper has assisted to produce this evil. Mr. B.'s proposed remedy may, in the present state of the country, be worse than the disease; and we trust that, if there be any thing erroneous in his positions, they will be refuted without injury from the discussion to the credit of the country. It is here

asked 'whether any complaint has been made to Parliament, to the Minister, or to the public, of any injury sustained by the adoption of the measure of stopping issues in cash from the Bank?' It is again asked, 'if there had been any danger in it, would so many great banking-houses have consented to it?' This, however, is not argument. Mo-y.

Art. 34. *Observations on the Publication of Walter Boyd*, Esq. M.P. By Sir Francis Baring, Bart. 8vo. 1s. Sewell, &c.

Sir Francis Baring admits that a considerable portion of Mr. Boyd's pamphlet contains facts and principles which are indisputable; and that, from an inordinate paper circulation, those very evils *must* spring which he maintains *have* arisen: but then he contends that our paper circulation, so far from being too great, 'has not exceeded the wants and even the convenience of the public;' and (like the author of the last-mentioned pamphlet) on the basis of Mr. Boyd's own statement, he endeavours to shew that this gentleman attributed immense consequences to a cause which was too inconsiderable to produce them. If Mr. Boyd meant to say that the Bank, by augmenting its paper in circulation, from 11,975,573l. to 15,450,970l. (making a difference of 3,500,000l.) has advanced the stocks and the price of provisions, he certainly assigned a cause which is inadequate to the effect: but we imagine that Sir Francis, and Mr. Boyd's other antagonist in this paper war about paper money, either do not or will not see the tendency of his reasoning; which, as we apprehend, does not go so much to the condemnation of an increase of three millions of paper, as to the reprobation of that system which gives to the Bank, in conjunction with the Government, the power of augmenting paper *ad libitum*; and which sanctions the national Bank, and the society of individual bankers, in withholding the precious metals from circulation.

Whether Mr. B. writes from patriotic or sinister motives, and whether his view of the subject be correct or false, we have so high an opinion of the good sense of our countrymen, as to preclude the apprehension of any serious mischief; and though, with Sir Francis Baring, we consider the Bank of England as 'the sheet-anchor of property of all descriptions,' it may tend to public good to counteract the possible ill effects of unbounded confidence, by some degrees of suspicion and discretion. Mischief may result from too much confidence or from too much fear; and therefore each extreme ought to be avoided. Can danger be averted by shutting our eyes against it? Is Sir F. B. more justified in asserting that 'there is rather a want than a superabundance of paper,' than Mr. Boyd is warranted in his contrary positions? D.o

Art. 35. *Humane Suggestions to Members of the First Imperial Parliament*, or urgent Reasons for New Laws respecting Paper Credit. 8vo. 2s. Scott.

Unlike Sir F. Baring, this writer is of opinion that 'England is nearly ruined by paper:' he wishes, therefore, to restrain the excessive issue of it; and for this purpose he endeavours to mark the boundary between justifiable and unjustifiable paper money, which he asserts the law must separate, 'or all will soon be endangered

together.' To the question '*what is unjustifiable credit*, or rather, *what is unjustifiable paper money?*' he replies; 'unjustifiable credit simply and shortly is paper thrown into the market of money, (and consequently into every other market,) for which the drawer had not previously received of the first taker its amount in *property*, but its amount only in *securities*, whether those securities were real or fictitious.' The difference between justifiable and unjustifiable paper money is that one is a representative of property, while the other is a representative of securities which may as easily be fictitious as real; and when that is the case, they seize on property under false pretences, or exhibit themselves with the double crime of falsehood and fraud.

According to this doctrine, the author regards those bank notes, which are created to discount navy and exchequer bills, and other mere securities, as false; and he asks whether we are to sacrifice our food, raiment, and lives, to fictitious money? The facility of making this money, and the enormous depreciation and taxation consequent on its prevalence, he considers as a mode of confiscation, not only of present property but of the expectations of posterity.

We have given this writer's sentiments as nearly as possible in his own words. He concludes with calling on the First Imperial Parliament to commence its labours, and the new century, by passing a law to introduce justice into the market of credit; by making it *felony* to give, or to circulate beyond the first taker, any paper which does not cost *property* to the whole amount specified on it.

Art. 36. *A Twelve-penny Answer to a Three Shillings and Six-penny Pamphlet*, intitled "A Letter on the Influence of the Stoppage of Issues in Specie at the Bank of England on the Price of Provisions and other Commodities." 8vo. 1s. Richardson.

While it is allowed that we *may* sink under the weight of our national debt, and that bank-notes *may* become waste paper, it is here contended that 'bank-paper has not hitherto done us any harm.' It certainly has hitherto been a great convenience, and the stoppage of issues in specie at the bank might be a measure which the peculiar circumstances of the country demanded: yet the effect of that stoppage of specie appears to have been injurious in some respects. The effect attributed to it by Mr. Boyd probably was not predicted by a spirit of prophecy, but by observing the uniform operation of paper circulation. In America, in France, and in England, when necessity or policy enjoined paper money, provisions rose in price. This is the result, whether paper be depreciated in the first instance, as in America and France; or whether it retains its nominal value, as among us: for the facility of producing paper will have an effect on all the public markets. These consequences, we believe, are incontrovertible; yet, if the quantity of the precious metals be insufficient (owing to certain temporary causes) to form an adequate circulating medium, recourse must be had to paper; and we would not encourage ill-founded doubts and surmises. We would neither reprobate the bank, nor say that paper-money is *the best of all possible money*.

When

When this author mentions scarcity of gold and silver as one cause of dearness, does he not in some measure accede to Mr. Boyd's principle? Mo-y.

Art. 37. *Observations on the Income Tax*, with Regulations suggested for the Security of the Revenue, and preventing the Waste of Public Money. Together with a proposed Plan of an auxiliary to the Sinking Fund. By Joseph Burchell, one of the Joint Clerks to the Commissioners of Taxes for Holborn Division, Middlesex. 8vo. 1s. Jordan.

Pliny's remark, *Nihil æqualitate inæqualius*, cannot be more truly applied than to the income tax. On persons of small incomes it is uncommonly severe; and justice and policy seem evidently to require a *new scale*, which Mr. Burchell proposes. The other hints suggested by him may hereafter merit attention: but, in the present enormous expenditure, such savings as he proposses will perhaps be deemed trifling. Do

Art. 38. *Reflections on the justice, advantage, and necessity of limiting, within a certain Compass, the Price of Wheat, by legislative Authority;* addressed to both Houses of Parliament. By the Author of Dearness of Provisions, &c. 8vo. 1s. Stockdale, &c.

This gentleman contends for reducing the price of wheat, by act of parliament, to 10s. per bushel in London and to 9s. in the country. If such an act were passed, would he insure the regular supply of the markets? The wisest politicians and political writers are decidedly against attempts to fix a maximum. Do

Art. 39. *Pandora's Box, and the Evils of Britain;* with effectual, *just*, and *equitable* Means for their Annihilation; and for the Preservation of the peace, happiness, and prosperity of the Country. By John Broadley, Merchant. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Vernor and Hood, &c.

Mr. Broadley divides society into two classes, the *agricultural* and the *commercial;* and he lays it down as a principle of natural justice, that each of these two distinct interests should support its own labourers and poor. He then maintains that 'the want of this distinction, in classing the poor of the country, generates *all* the evils that stock the Pandora's Box of Great Britain:' but he afterward corrects himself, and asserts at one time that the Box of the British Pandora is 'the loss of our liberties by the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* act,' and at another that it is the *national debt*. He believes these to be the evils of the Box; and he says, 'if I were put to the extremest torture, I would not retract my opinion.' Why should he be called to retract his opinion, as he has undertaken to prescribe effectual remedies for all evils? To annihilate the *Cacadora*-Box of Britain, he proposes equitable poor laws, which should oblige the *agricultural* and *commercial* classes separately to provide for their own poor. If this were properly regulated, and justice done to the lower classes, he thinks that war would cease; that, in forty years, the debt would vanish; liberty would return; and then, with a general

cultivation of wastes, and a repeal of the income tax, all would come right, and plenty and content reign universally.

If Mr. B. can satisfy his readers as easily as he appears to have contented himself, he will have great good fortune. As for Reviewers, who ever hoped to satisfy *them?*

Moy.

Art. 40. *Practical Oeconomy:* or, a Proposal for enabling the Poor to provide for themselves: with Remarks on the Establishment of Soup-houses; and an Investigation of the real Cause of the present extravagant Consumption of fine Wheaten Bread by the People of this Country. By a Physician. 8vo. 2s. Callow.

This pamphlet is divided into three parts. The first remarks on the injurious consequences of soup-houses to the health and morals of the poor:—the 2d, on the consumption of fine bread occasioned by the use of *Tea:*—and, the 3d, on the means by which the poor may obtain for themselves an abundance of cheap and healthy food.—Under the first head, the observations are very judicious and well exhibited; and it is to be wished that the abettors and supporters of the soup establishments had followed the rule of an old clergyman of our acquaintance; who, when he was about to do that which, at first view, appeared to be good, always moved in his mind the previous question, Shall I not do harm? The operation of the dole-basket among the antients, and of the soup-shop among the moderns, is nearly the same.

To the author's Philippic against *Tea*, in the second part, we do not altogether accede: yet, as a medical man, he so well describes its qualities and effects on the system, that among the labouring poor especially its general use ought to be discouraged. He shews by tables, that palsies have regularly increased with the increased use of tea. It is also here particularly reprobated as a consumer of bread.

In the third part, the author explains, in a very perspicuous and philosophical manner, the nutritive principle in wheat; with the view of illustrating its most economical as well as wholesome preparation as food. He strengthens the doctrine, 'that a smaller quantity of unfermented farinaceous food will enable a man to support hard labour than fine bread,' by a fact stated by the late Mr. Brindley, the celebrated canal engineer; that, in various works in which he was engaged, he always observed that the north countrymen from Lancashire and Yorkshire, who adhered to their customary diet of oat-cake and hasty-pudding, sustained more labour and gained more money, than such as lived on bread, cheese, bacon, and beer, the general diet of the labourers of the south. Hence this sensible writer recommends to the poor the preparation and use of unfermented farinacea, combined with animal fat; which is asserted to be more nutritive than lean. To the use of bread, he is a decided enemy; and to diminish its consumption among the poor, he wishes to have them instructed in the cookery of unfermented grain, which is at once cheaper and more strengthening. How far he will succeed is very doubtful: but his great object of inducing domestic economy and a spirit of self-dependence among the poor is highly commendable;

mendable; for no position is more true than that "The day which makes a man a *beggar* takes away half his worth." Mo-y.

Art. 41. *Radical Means of counteracting the present Scarcity*, and preventing Famine in future; including the Proposal of a Maximum founded on a new Principle.—To which is prefixed, An Address to the Legislature, on a Plan for meliorating the Condition of Society at large. By George Edwards, Esq. 8vo. 3s 6d. Johnson.

The Amelioration of society at large is a vast attempt: but Mr. Edwards has been in the habit of allowing his speculations to take a very extensive range, (See M. R. vol. iv. p. 67 and 73, N. S.) and he perseveres in affording them the same indulgence. The pamphlet before us is only a part of a large work, which this gentleman is preparing, *On the Public Interests of Society;* and it is detached from the rest because it more immediately relates to the circumstances of the present times. As a man who reasons philosophically, and has attended to the lessons of history, Mr. E. is not fascinated, though many writers of the present day fatally appear to be, with the splendid charms of commerce, but gives the preference to agriculture, as a source of the most durable prosperity and happiness. He would invite the return of peace, by every advisable measure, rather than aim at political advantages which may be found to end in real misfortunes.

The causes of the present distress he conceives to be—real scarcity of necessaries—increase of population, and additional numbers to be maintained by the produce of the country—too heavy burdens imposed on the agricultural product of the kingdom—too great prevalence of speculation in regard to the necessaries of life—the defective or inadequate state of agriculture—exorbitant prices of commodities in general—partial application of agriculture for the wealthy, to the injury of the indigent part of the community—and the continuation of both real and artificial scarcity. By this enumeration, it is evident that Mr. E. has taken an extensive view of the subject; and on the whole we believe that he is tolerably accurate: some of his *causes*, however, are rather necessary *consequences* than primary *sources* of evil.

The remedies suggested are—a parliamentary grant of money, to purchase corn to be retailed at reduced prices to the poor—importation of corn by government—establishment of agencies—plan of economical consumption—advancement of agriculture, including inclosure of wastes and commons, improving what is already inclosed, and limiting the size of farms—removing taxes on the necessaries and essential comforts of life—meliorating the condition of the lower classes—substituting oxen for horses—and a maximum.

While the author apologizes for his brevity, or for not discussing his topics at full length, *we* must apologize for giving little more than a syllabus of his long pamphlet; which, with the dedication, occupies above 170 pages.—Mr. E. is vain of having first suggested the idea of the *Income Tax*. We do not envy him this source of self-congratulation.

Art. 42. *Thoughts of an Old Man of Independent Mind, though Dependent Fortune, on the high Price of Corn.* 8vo. 1s. Reynolds.

Independence of mind and dependence of fortune in an old man, more especially in times like the present, form a very rare phænomenon; for, when the necessaries of life are at an immoderate price, and the power of singular exertion is precluded by the weight of years, the mind naturally prefers acquiescence to resistance, and accommodates its opinions to imperious circumstances. Some such accommodation, perhaps, appears in the pamphlet before us; the author of which recommends money made of *mother of pearl*, public granaries, and a maximum. With the narrativeness of old-age, he reveals part of a private conversation which he tells us he had with the late Dr. Adam Smith; and which honour and generosity to the memory of the dead required him to keep private. **Mo-y.**

RELIGIOUS.

Art. 43. *A Vindication of the Calvinistic Doctrines of Human Depravity, the Atonement, Divine Influences,* &c. in a Series of Letters to the Rev. T. Belsham: occasioned by his "Review of Mr. Wilberforce's Treatise;" with an Appendix, addressed to the Author of "Letters on Hereditary Depravity." By Thomas Williams, Author of the Age of Infidelity, &c. 8vo. pp. 255. 4s. Boards. Chapman.

Certain axioms, or fundamental principles, should be settled between Calvinists and Anti-Calvinists, before they proceed to the discussion of controverted doctrines. The very terms designed to express the matter in debate do not seem to be contemplated by both parties precisely in the same light, so as to convey to the mind exactly the same ideas; and if this be the case, all disputation must be vain. Whatever terms are adopted, they ought to be very accurately defined, or the result will prove a mere logomachy.

A clearness of conception would be assisted, if two men, differing on Calvinistic points, were to discuss them without quoting one passage of scripture, or using one common and hackneyed word or expression. Let them find out some new counters for their reckonings, and the result will not be so different as it is at present *. Mr. Williams has not proceeded on this principle, but goes over the old Calvinistic ground without any variation of phrase or argument. Considering Mr. Belsham as 'having thrown a stumbling block in the way of truth,' he is to be commended for endeavouring to remove it: but we cannot admire his talents in the department of controversial divinity. He tells us that he 'believes the narrative of the fall literally;' and yet he dares not, he says, enter on the question concerning the origin of evil.

Indeed, Mr. Williams often argues very inconclusively on his side of the question; and sometimes, we are sorry to add, he descends to a species of illiberality: accusing Mr. B. of profaneness, of a wish to admit nothing on the evidence of revelation, and finally classing him with Thomas Paine.

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* It frequently happens that what is called *faith* in a doctrine is nothing more than a *fondness* for certain terms and phrases by which it is expressed. Employ other terms, and dissatisfaction ensues.

In

In the letter on *Satan and a Future Punishment*. Mr. W. tells us that 'our Saviour taught his disciples to refer to a diabolical agency most of the evils in the world, either natural or moral, particularly *vice* * and madness.'

Eternal punishments are thus curiously explained: 'God originally fixed an indissoluble connection between sin and pain; and at the same time endued man, as I conceive, with an immortal soul. None of the perfections of the Deity could bind him to disjoin the connection between sin and its natural consequences; or to revoke the immortality of the sinner.' Reader, art not thou convinced?

In the letter on *the Origin and Design of Sacrifices*, the author says that 'he cannot help thinking that they were intended to shew the insufficiency of the personal righteousness and acts of penitence of the offerers; (properly figured, as some think, by a girdle of tough fig-leaves;) and point out that robe of righteousness which he should provide, who was himself to be the great sacrifice for sin.' To this it is added, as a note, that 'from this circumstance, I suppose, originated, not only the wearing skins for cloathing, but especially the priests of Hercules being thus arrayed.' The priests of Hercules are here unfortunately introduced: but, as his lion's skin is brought to our recollection, we ought also to have had his club.

Mr. W. commences a bold attack on Mr. B. for saying that the Scriptures "never exhort us to ask any thing *for the sake of Christ*;" and he appoints the plain Christian, who daily converses with his Bible, to decide the matter: before whom he triumphantly produces Eph. iv. 32. where certainly the phrase "*God for Christ's sake*" occurs; on which evidence the plain Christian must pronounce Mr. B. to be egregiously in an error: but then, in a note, the cause is moved out of the plain Christian's court; and after all the parade that has preceded, it is confessed by Mr. W. that the phrase in our translation, *for Christ's sake*, has no corresponding terms in the original, where it is only "as God *in* or *by* Christ (εν Χριστω) has forgiven you." Mr. W., then, has not shewn that Mr. B. is wrong. Whether *in* or *by Christ*, or in *the name of Christ*, be synonimous with "*for Christ's sake*," is another question.

What Mr. Williams means by saying, 'that God does not impute sin or righteousness without a foundation for it in the nature of things,' we do not understand. We must presume, however, that he does; and being satisfied with his own system, we shall allow him to be as indignant as he pleases at Mr. B.'s statement of 'the consequences of Calvinism,' and to give him "a Rowland for his Oliver" by pouring the full tide of indignation against *modern Philosophers, rational Divines, and rational Gentlemen.* **Mo-y.**

Art. 44. *A brief View of the Necessity and Truth of the Christian Revelation.* By Thomas Hartwell Horne. 12mo. pp. 127. 2s. 6d. Boards. Sael. 1800.

We must acknowlege that we have perused this little manual with pleasure; for though we have many excellent treatises on the same subject, they are commonly too large for general use; and those which

* P. 249, the *heart of man* is said to be the fountain of *all* iniquity.

are of a smaller size are not sufficiently known, or are on some accounts exceptionable. In the present tract, the writer appears to us to keep to the point, without adverting to nice speculations and party distinctions, which affect not the reality of the facts, or the authenticity of the writings. The first section, he very fairly confesses, consists almost wholly of an abridgment of Dr. Leland's Account of the State of Religion in the antient Heathen World. The second and last section is designed to prove 'the existence of our Saviour, from the united testimonies of authors both friendly and inimical to the Christian revelation;' and the reasons or facts produced, though not uncommon, will probably be satisfactory to those with whom truth is the object of inquiry and desire. Objections, which are almost endless, Mr. Horne professes not to answer; nor could he have done this within the compass of his proposed plan.—After a brief summary of the argument, the volume is concluded by a just view of the purity and sanctity of the Christian precepts; evincing farther the excellence of the gospel, and its superiority to all other forms of religion that have been devised.

The work abounds with references not only to the Scriptures, but to other and particularly to antient writings; the author says that 'he was doubtful whether to insert them all; but on re-consideration he has done it, as exactly as possible, for the satisfaction of those who may be induced to examine them.'

Mr. Horne has also published a translation of a French work on the commerce of Greece, but we have not yet seen it. Hi.

Art. 45. *Public Worship considered and enforced*, by Joseph Kinghorn. 12mo. 6d. Button. 1800.

This author presents his little performance with modesty, while he writes with earnestness, and appears to have a real desire to be useful. There is strength in his argument, and there is sense in his remarks: though his style might admit of improvement. One phrase, viz. *God's Character*, is to be found here and in some other works; which is not, in our view, the most suitable and pleasant. In some particular instances, the word may not be improper: but to employ it generally, as we would do concerning our fellow-creatures, indicates too great freedom on such a subject: yet what is said on the topic on which this expression occurs, p. 8, 9, 10, is highly proper, seasonable, and useful. Do

Art. 46. *A Concise Directory for the Profitable Employment of the Christian Sabbath.* By Samuel Burder. 12mo. 3d. Williams. 1800.

Since a day of *rest*, and that a *religious* rest, is professedly acknowleged and regarded among Christians, it is desirable that it should be observed in a suitable manner. Besides that attendance on public worship which more immediately accords with its design, it is to be wished that the other parts of the day might be so employed as to strengthen those virtuous sentiments and impressions, which religious exercises ought to awaken and promote. It is the intention of this writer to assist his readers in prosecuting this end: for which purpose, he offers them some directions both as to the hours of worship,

worship, and as to other parts of the day; not, we apprehend, to render it burdensome, but satisfactory and useful. The small size of the pamphlet will make the plain instructions which it delivers the more easily and generally attainable. Hi.

Art. 47. *An Attempt to exhibit the Meaning and Connexion of Romans, Fifth Chapter, 12th and following Verses;* particularly shewing how they apply to the certain Salvation of all Infants. 8vo. 1s. Faulder. 1800.

That infants, removed from this world by an untimely death, do not pass into any state of suffering, is a position which few in the present day will contradict. However gloomy and discouraging this writer's creed might otherwise be, he has too much humanity and compassion to offer a contrary supposition; and he thinks that he finds, in the above-mentioned passage, sufficient assurance of their happiness. If any stress be laid on the words—"them who had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression,"—his argument may lose much of its effect: since it does by no means clearly appear that *infants* were intended by such a description; some have thought that they were, but others have had no idea of the kind. However, without the aid which any particular explication of this passage might afford, we have surely, under the Christian dispensation, reason sufficient for the conclusion that those who die in infancy partake in the compassions of their All-wise and All-merciful Creator! D.o

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 48. *Lectures on History*, delivered in the Normal School of Paris. By C. F. Volney, Author of The Ruins of Empires, Member of the National Institute of France, &c. &c. Translated from the French. 12mo. pp. 200. 3s. 6d. Boards. Ridgway. 1800.

An account of the original of this work has been given in the appendix to our xxxist volume. The translation appears to be executed with care: but the observations of M. Volney on the construction of public rooms are not here included; for which omission the reasons assigned are, that his remarks relative to that object are not connected with the subject of his lectures, and that the engraving of the plan would have added considerably to the expence. Capt. B...y.

Art. 49. *Political Calumny refuted:* addressed to the Inhabitants of Woodbridge, containing an Extract of a Sermon, preached at Butley, on the Fast-day, 1793: a Sermon preached at Otley, on the Day appointed for a General Thanksgiving on Account of our Naval Victories: and Solitary Musings (in Verse) on the Being of a God, Providence, and the French Revolution. By the Rev. John Black. 8vo. 1s. Robinsons. 1800.

In these agitated and perilous times, a publication of this kind is not likely to excite general interest: but it may find readers in the author's neighbourhood, and may probably operate in his favour. He complains of having been calumniated, and this miscellaneous pamphlet is exhibited in proof of the soundness of his principles. Mr. Black appears to be a man who has gloried in moderation, and whose political attachments have not extinguished Christian benevolence.

volence. In his fast sermon, he enters not into the praise or condemnation of ministers, but, like a true Christian preacher, directs our views to the over-ruling Providence of God. Perhaps his judicious forbearance in this respect may have been misinterpreted.

The annexed verses being published rather to prove the orthodoxy of the writer's opinions, than for the sake of their poetic merit, we do not feel ourselves inclined to apply to them the severity of criticism. We would not irritate the afflicted.

'So have I tun'd my humble artless song,
Unseen, unheeded, as I stroll'd along:
Low as the reed-bird am I doom'd to dwell,
My cup oft fill'd at Sorrow's bitter well;
Yet rain-bow hope, amidst my darkness rose,
And tints celestial spread on clouds of woes;
With sunny beams fair gilded showery Grief,
And cheer'd my heart with promise of relief.'

Let these lines speak for themselves; and let it suffice for us to say that we hope that, if Mr. B. does not obtain the Mastership of the Free Grammar-school which he solicits, he will succeed in opening a school of his own.

Mo-y.

Art. 50. *The Poems of Allan Ramsay.* A new Edition, corrected and enlarged; with a Glossary. To which are prefixed a Life of the Author, from authentic Documents; and Remarks on his Poems, from a large View of their Merits. 2 Vols. 8vo. 1l. 1s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1800.

This is a very handsome and (we believe) complete edition of a poet who has gained great and deserved celebrity. We shall therefore inform our readers of those particulars which distinguish the present from all former impressions of his works.—Some poems have been added, which had escaped the diligence of former collectors; and a life of Ramsay is also given, which contains a number of curious and some interesting anecdotes. To the style of these pieces of biography, however, we must object, because it is turgid and affected; indeed, an injudicious adoption of Johnson's manner, where the matter is insignificant, frequently gives the narrative an appearance of *mock heroic*, which we are persuaded was very far from the writer's intention *. The author of this life is reported to be Mr. George Chalmers, who is well-known to the public by various other performances.

These volumes also contain Remarks on the Genius and Writings of Ramsay, which discover the cultivated taste of the writer; with an enthusiastic admiration of his subject, which prompts him to bestow praise that the generality of readers will probably deem unmerited. We find considerable reluctance in attributing to Ramsay a superiority in point of humour over our admirable countryman, Butler; and we have equal difficulty in allowing the former to have been a true

* We are informed in these pages that Lady Wardlaw, of Pitrevie in Fife, was the authoress of Hardyknute, a fragment, first published in 1719, and since frequently reprinted, and attributed to different persons.

Horatian

Horatian genius. Such, however, is the commendation lavished on the poet by Mr. Tytler, whom we understand to be the author of these remarks; with the *nature* as well as the *extent* of whose praise we must declare ourselves to be dissatisfied. He does not hesitate to prefer, in all the essential requisites of the pastoral drama, the *Gentle Shepherd* to the *Aminta* of *Tasso*, and the *Pastor Fido* of *Guarini*. This is, indeed, according to the language of the title-page, taking *a Large View of the Merits of Ramsay.*

A pleasing portrait of the northern poet is prefixed, from a drawing by his son the celebrated painter; and, as a tail-piece, is added an engraving of the rustic temple which has been dedicated by Mr. Tytler, who happily possesses the supposed scene of the *Gentle Shepherd*, to the *place* and the *poet*.—A *fac-simile* of Ramsay's handwriting is now for the first time presented to the public, which the editor rather unnecessarily declares to be *accurate*; for how otherwise would it be a *fac-simile?* ~~—The volumes are very handsomely printed.~~ S. R. 8

Art. 51. *Le Negociant universel, ou Recueil de Lettres originales*, &c. *Par* G. Keegan. 8vo. 5s. Vernor and Hood. 1799.

This volume is not improperly dedicated to the merchants of Great Britain, as containing a number of original commercial letters, written from the principal houses of Russia, Holland, England, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany, and Turkey. They are composed in French, because that language has become the general vehicle of commercial intercourse among the merchants of Europe. They appear to us to be well chosen, and proper to lie on the counter of every mercantile house.—We are sorry to see that the number of subscribers is small: but we learn that the book has had so considerable a sale that a second edition is preparing. It might, as Mr. Keegan observes, be usefully introduced into schools; since, from the perusal of it, young persons might at the same time acquire a knowlege of the French language, and real notions of business. Ged..5.

Art. 52. *The English Enchiridion;* being a Selection of Apopthegms, moral Maxims, &c. By John Feltham. Crown 8vo. pp. 125. 2s. 6d. Boards. Printed at Bath; sold by Mawman, London. 1799.

Perhaps there is not a more fruitful source of error, than the practice of converting observations, drawn from very limited and partial experience, into general axioms:—yet this is a fault into which all the writers of maxims are naturally led, by the vanity of making new discoveries. In the collection before us, we find some apopthegms which are true in the fullest extent, others that are false, and others which are so loosely expressed as to convey in reality no meaning. Some caution should always be exercised in perusing these *dogmata*. It is more common to repeat a maxim than to examine its truth and justice; and, as a great part of the misery of life proceeds from the indulgence of false opinions, no observation, however plausible, should be inculcated as an incontestable truth, until it has been sanctioned by the best and wisest men, and confirmed by the test of experience.

This volume is ornamented by an elegant frontispiece, designed by Burney, to illustrate the first maxim; which is thus prettily conceived:

'Life

'Life is a picture, fortune the frame, but misfortune the shade; the first only its *extrinsic* ornament; but the latter, if well *sustained*, forms the *intrinsic* merit, by giving a bolder *relief* to the figures.' Bant.

Art. 53. *Intellectual Freedom;* an Essay on the true Source and Nature of moral Evil; by Richard Hayes Southwell. 12mo. pp. 187. 3s. Boards. Longman.

——————— —"And reason'd high
Of Providence, foreknowledge, will, and fate,
Fix'd fate, freewill, foreknowledge absolute."

Of such a nature are the subjects of inquiry in this volume: the author of which informs us that a conversation with a friend, who admitted the Scriptures to be true, gave occasion to the essay. It is divided into five chapters, the general contents of which we will lay before the reader, to enable him to form some judgment of the nature and design of the book.

'Chap. I. Of evil in general, and its distinction from error: some of the immediate causes of both: of angels and men; together with the original harmony, union, and perfection of intellectual nature.—Chap II. Of truth, as it refers to God, and as it becomes known to man; of apostate angels;—their knowledge and properties;—with the nature and mode of their foul revolt.—Chap. III. The original perfection of man;—the nature of his fall, and present situation:—of the law, as a covenant of works;—redemption by faith in Christ;—of love, as a principle of obedience:—the power of conscience;—the agreement of different dispensations; and the perpetuity and use of the moral law.—Chap. IV. Human testimonies in favour of moral agency;—the use and abuse of the passions;—objections drawn from reason to the existence and consequences of moral evil stated, and answered;—with remarks on the nature and influence of divine foresight.—Chap. V. Objections drawn from revelation answered;—the natural evils of inferiority, correction, and punishment considered;—partial evil in the moral world, illustrated by partial evils in the natural world;. the cause, use, and design of the latter;—their apparent irregularities adjusted by a final retribution.'

In the execution of this plan, we meet with acute and judicious remarks, and perceive both ingenuity and utility: yet we cannot say that, to our apprehension, farther light is thrown on the subject. Notwithstanding some variations, the author pursues a tract in which others before him have often trodden. His retrospect carries us to times far more distant than the defection of the first human pair; yet, whatever just reflections he may make on angelical nature and fallen spirits, we cannot find that he hence derives any considerable assistance; and indeed how should it be expected?—so little do we know concerning them. Imagination may take its range, but truth and reality will be far distant from its excursions.

Several uncouth or unusual words occur in the former part of this work; such as *declivous*, *obsession*, *visure* faculty, *coetaneous*, *illative*, the *tuitus* of, *approval*, *consecutive*, *clarity*, *eclectic* liberty, *ingenerated*, *submittal*, *irrespective*, *ethological*, *accident* of our being, &c. Some of these terms may indicate that the writer is conversant with antient writers,

writers, and others may be regarded as scientific, but they do not add to the value of the work; in the latter half of which they appear but seldom. Some sentiments also (as at p. 37. and 71.) are rather unpleasantly expressed; and we notice a farther peculiarity respecting the texts of Scripture which occur, and which are almost constantly followed by the words, David, Sol. Asaph, Elihu, Christ, Paul, or other names to which they might be considered as appropriate. **Hi.**

Art. 54. *Cantabrigienses Graduati; sive Catalogus, exhibens nomina eorum, quos, ab anno* 1659 *usque ad annum* 1800, *gradu quocunque ornavit Academia Cantabrigiensis; e libris subscriptionum desumptus, atque ordine alphabetico compositus.* 4to. pp. 480. 8s. sewed. Deighton, Cambridge; London, Cadell and Davies, &c.

This is a very useful publication, and is offered to the public by the liberality of the University at a low price. The old catalogue was scarce, and consequently dear. **R. Wood.**

Art. 55. *Original Letters of J. J. Rousseau*, to M. de Malesherbes, M. d'Alembert, Madame la M. de Luxembourg, &c. &c. With a fac-simile of Rousseau's hand-writing. And an original Military Air of his Composition. Also, original Letters of Butta Fuoco and David Hume. Translated from the French. 12mo. pp. 200. 4s. 6d. Boards. Symonds. 1799.

Of these letters, in the original, we have frequently spoken in our xxxth vol. for 1799, particularly at p. 505 and 537. We have therefore now only to say that this translation seems to be accurate and easy. In looking through it, however, we found at page 85, line 3d from bottom, a vulgarism which we least expected from the perusal of the preceding pages. The translator here makes Rousseau say to *Madame la Mareschale de Luxembourg*: 'these considerations induce me to wish, *if you are agreeable*'—instead of, *if agreeable to you*: this mistake is not a Gallicism, which in a translation from the French; was most likely to happen, but a common and genuine *Anglicism*. **Dr. B...y.**

Art. 56. *Providence Displayed:* or, the remarkable Adventures of Alexander Selkirk, of Largo, in Scotland, &c. By Isaac James. With a Map of the Island, and twenty-four Cuts. 12mo. 3s. Boards. Button, &c. 1800.

The author of this compilation has employed some industry in collecting the scattered facts respecting the well-known Selkirk, whose adventures gave rise to the romance of Robinson Crusoe; and to these slight notices he has added a sort of history of the island of Juan Fernandez; with several stories of mariners who have been wrecked on desart islands, or who have experienced remarkable escapes from the perils of the sea. The publication will add little to the information or amusement of most of our readers: but it may prove an acceptable gift to many of our younger friends. The wooden cuts are miserably executed, considering the present highly improved state of engraving on wood. **Fer.r**

Art. 57. *Observations on the Authenticity of Bruce's Travels in Aby[illegible]*; in Reply to some Passages in Brown's Travels through Egypt, Africa, and Syria. To which is added, a comparative View of Life and Happiness in Europe and in Caffraria. By Richard

Richard Wharton. Printed at Newcastle upon Tyne. 4to. pp. 84. 5s. sewed. Cadell jun. and Davies, London. 1800.

The greater part of this treatise is employed in an attack on Mr. *Browne*'s Travels into Africa, a work which is by no means secure from criticism. Its faults are here acutely noticed; and what Mr. Browne did or *did not do* is described in a serious banter:

'The expedition, of which a narrative has lately been published by Mr. Brown, comprizes a period of six years: during which Mr. Brown *did not* discover the ruins of the Temple of Jupiter Ammon *: *did not* penetrate into Habbesh or Abyssinia: *did not* visit his favourite river, the Bahr el Abiad, or ascertain the situation of its source: and *did not* reach the Niger, or effectuate any communication with western Africa. These interesting particulars are made known to the public, in a middle sized quarto. It has evidently been the design of Mr. Brown to diffuse the information contained in his book as widely as possible; since, although there are two maps †, a frontispiece, and two engravings in the volume; although the type is neat, the paper hot-pressed, and the pages four hundred and forty-two, exclusive of a most amusing road book in imitation of Patterson; yet the price is no more than a guinea and a half! and who would not think much more than that sum amply compensated, by the matter contained in it? Who would not think he had paid too little for the participation of those valuable facts, which I have above stated as the principal contents of Mr. Brown's book? But this instructive writer goes further than I have mentioned; he tells us, that other books have been published, which forestall any thing he can communicate, relative to Egypt and Syria; he enters with the minuteness of a customhouse officer, into the revenues of Egypt; he proves, in a satisfactory manner, that our ally Jezzar Pacha is imperious, and has behaved ill to the citizens of the great nation: and he shews, in a very masterly style, the weakness of supposing that liberty, science, and virtue, can convey to man a larger portion of happiness, than slavery, ignorance, and roguery.

'Such are the outlines of the work, in which I am sorry to find a few passages, that so strongly militate against the reputation of Mr. Bruce, as to make some reply, on the part of those who think highly of that gentleman, not impertinent. The qualifications, which seem to have rendered Mr. Brown peculiarly fitted for such an important undertaking as that of traversing the interior of Africa, were evidently manifold: although it may be regretted, (among other things) that

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'* The objects of Mr. Brown's expedition were, to visit the Temple of Ammon: to explore Abyssinia: to visit (and trace if possible) the Bahr el Abiad: and to investigate the Mohammedan states lying in the western parts of Africa between the Niger and Tripoli.'

'† *Two maps.* It is but common justice to add, that in these two maps, there are no less than one hundred and five names of places, of which twenty-two are laid down from Mr. Brown's own observation; and that this number gives above *one* to every *five square inches*. I must also observe, that the frontispiece is perfectly gratuitous, having no reference to, or explanation in, the work itself; and that the plates, representing a pyramid, and the Fûrian monarch's palace, are of exquisite design and elaborate execution.'

he did not possess some knowledge of the language and prejudices of those whom he proposed to visit, before he left Kahira: that he did not condescend so far to accommodate his behaviour to the ideas of the natives, as to restrain some little whims and frolics, which seem to have interfered with African notions of decorum: and that he did not keep some reign upon his temper. *'

When one author purposely writes against another, he most usually loses his circumspection and temper, and blames too much. In this predicament, we think, Mr. Wharton stands. He censures a passage† in Mr. Browne's book, which is at least intelligible; and though it borders on bombast, it is not very far distant from fine writing.

Besides criticizing Mr. Browne's style and sentiments, Mr. Wharton examines what degree of credit is due to the assertions, or rather insinuations of that writer, by which it is to be understood that Mr. Bruce did not trace the Nile to its true source, that the moving sands are by no means formidable, and that the Abyssinian traveller did not make drawings of the Theban harpers on the spot.—Mr. W. assails Mr. Browne with no inconsiderable success: but we wish that he had indulged more moderately in his ironical disposition. A strain of banter not provoking laughter, but irksome from its continuance, pervades his work; and in some parts it is so ambiguous, that we could not determine whether he was in jest or earnest.—The comparative view of European and Caffrarian manners is conducted on the same principle of irony.

It is a complaint that Mr. Browne has dilated over a large surface of paper a small quantity of information. Mark the deplorableness of our fate! we have to peruse a second quarto, in order to be convinced that what we found in a first quarto might have been compressed within the limits of an octavo!

R. Wood.

SINGLE SERMONS.

Art. 58. *On the prevalent Neglect of the Holy Communion;* by George Smith, M. A. Curate of the Parish-Church of Sheffield. 12mo. 6d. Matthews. 1800.

This writer, rejecting transubstantiation, at the same time appears perfectly to assent to that representation which is made by our articles, homilies, &c. of the Christian institution, or as it *has* been termed "the holy mysteries," on which he earnestly exhorts his hearers to attend. Mr. Smith apprehends that the number of communicants, in his parish, has of late years greatly diminished; and an appendix 'contains an account of their amount for the last twenty years,' to support this idea. Perhaps,—of which indeed we perceive some intimation,—many of

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' * *Temper.* "The misconduct of this man was carried to such an excess, that I once levelled my gun at him, with a view of inspiring terror." p. 192. The use of instruments of death in inspiring terror, has been tried with great effect in the French Republic.'

† Part of that passage is; "The affections are turned askance, but not eradicated: the pushes that should have been made *ad auras æthereas*, opposed, revert to Tartarus. The luxuriancy of mental vigor, though repulsed and forcibly inverted, still extends its ramifications: its pallescent shoots pierce the dunghill, when not permitted to open themselves to the influence of the sun."

those who are absent on such occasions, from this particular church, appear at other chapels and places of worship, which have been formed in so populous a town as Sheffield. **Hi.**

Art. 59. Preached at the Assizes holden for the County of Southampton, 23d July 1800. By Daniel Lancaster, A. B. 8vo. 1s. Cadell jun. and Davies.

The preachers of Assize-sermons have but a scanty choice of subjects. Mr. Lancaster has selected one which has been often discussed on these occasions; viz. the importance of religious principle, and especially of the Christian doctrine of a future state of rewards and punishments, in a civil view, as enforcing obedience to the laws by the strongest of all sanctions. From the conduct of the most able legislators and rulers of antiquity, their sentiments on this subject is manifest; and as religion is so essential in promoting virtue, and in restraining vice, the public administration of justice in this Christian country judiciously solicits the aid of that Gospel which has *brought immortality to light*. Text, 2 Tim. i. 10. Possessed of such a truth, how strange is it that we are not more virtuous! **Mo-y.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

We have received a letter from a correspondent, who signs C. V. L. G., the substance of which is contained in the following abstract; which we lay before our learned readers for their consideration, without adding any remarks.

'Permit me to offer a conjectural emendation of a corrupted passage in the Phœnissæ: Porson's Edition v. 861. Instead of ὡς πᾶς' ἀπήνη, I should propose ὡς παῖς ἀπηλθε. "*Quoniam puella abiit.*"

'I propose the above reading on these grounds:—Tiresias comes upon the stage led by his daughter, whom (after (τιθεῖς' &c.) she had conducted him εις το λευρον πεδον v. 850.) he *dismisses*, v. 851, and is left alone walking difficultly and cautiously forward, v. 858: when Creon says θάρσει &c. v. 859, 860. and tells his son to lay hold of Tiresias's hand and guide him, ως παις απηλθε ("*quoniam puella abiit*") πους τε πρεσβυτου φιλεῖ ΧΕΙΡΟΣ ΘΥΡΑΙΑΣ αναμενειν κουφισματα.—As χειρ θυραια signifies, *generaliter*, *externa manus*, like θυραιοι ανδρες, *externi homines*, the sense of the passage seems (loosely englished) thus "My son, do *you* lay hold of Tiresias, for now that *his daughter has left him*, the old man would be glad to have his footsteps guided by a stranger's hand, i. e. any hand he can meet with."——

A reverend correspondent, who dates from St. George's in the East, is requested to believe that the great extent of our labours often obliges us to trespass on the patience of individuals, when it would give us pleasure to gratify their earliest wishes. In the case in question, we shall not fail to attend to the work mentioned, but we cannot promise immediate notice.

We are obliged to Viator for his remarks: but we are so much pressed for room, that we must beg to decline the insertion of them.

☞ P. 59. Rev. January, l. 7. from bot. for 'Gætner,' r. *Gærtner*; P. 75. l. 14. for 'on,' r. *in*.